FBIS DAILY REPORT

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'INTERNATIONAL SITUATION--QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS' PROGRAM

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["International Situation--Questions and Answers" program; with moderator Valeriy Kosovan; Aleksandr Nikolayevich Druzhinin, political observer of All-Union Radio and Television; Vladimir Alekseyevich Krivtsov, deputy director of the Far East Institute in the USSR Academy of Sciences; and Eduard Arsenevich Gurev, international affairs journalist]

UN Disarmament Session

[Excerpts] [Kosovan] Greetings, respected comrades. Your questions concern the forthcoming special UN session on disarmament. A preparatory committee for its convocation is at work in New York. Only China has refused to take part in it. The session will last from 23 May to 28 June. Decisions will be made on the basis of general consensus. This is the first time in UN history that disarmament issues will be so widely discussed at such a representative international forum; 149 states will participate. The session's agenda has already been worked out.

The USSR, together with Bulgaria, Hungary, GDR, Mongolia, Poland and Czechoslovakia, put forward for consideration by the preparatory committee, drafts for the final documents, the basic tenets of a declaration on disarmament and program of action on disarmament. The socialist states call on all states to cease, for example, the production of nuclear weapons and to begin gradual reduction of stockpiles right up to their complete elimination. Our country is also proposing an agreement with the West on mutual renunciation of production of neutron weapons.

The socialist countries' proposals also concern the mechanism of further disarmament talks. In particular, it is a question of the need to use proven forms of conducting talks. This primarily refers to the Geneva Disarmament Committee. In order to achieve further progress in this direction, the USSR favors speeding up the preparations for convening a world disarmament conference. The initiative for holding such a forum was made by our country, and the majority of states who are UN members have supported this proposal. However, because of the negative position of China and the United States, its convocation has been delayed up to now. Of course, a world conference can fulfill its role only if all states possessing nuclear weapons participate. Consequently, the documents which the socialist countries presented for consideration by the preparatory committee point out the need for establishing substantive dates for convening the world disarmament conference.

Now the preparatory committee has over two dozen drafts. They reflect the various views on the aims and tasks of the forthcoming session. But the proposals made by certain Western countries are clearly aimed at minimizing the importance of the session and making its documents only routine, although the main aim of the special UN session is to take effective measures to limit armaments.

Status of SALT

Quite a lot has been done in this field of arms limitation in recent years. A number of agreements and treaties have been concluded, talks--bilateral, tripartite and multilateral--are being held on a wide range of issues.

Among these, undoubtedly, the greatest significance is attached to Soviet-U.S. talks. There are many letters in today's mail, which express an interest in the state of Soviet-U.S. relations and, in particular, the status of the Strategic Arms Limitation talks. You are answered by Aleksandr Nikolayevich Druzhinin, political observer of Soviet Television and Radio. Thank you, Aleksandr Nikolayevich:

[Druzhinin] There is nothing surprising in the fact that the issue of the state of affairs in the field of strategic arms limitation attracts such great attention among our listeners. For one can say without exaggeration that this problem is fundamental to the further development of Soviet-U.S. relations. Its significance is not only limited to the framework of relations between the Soviet Union and the United States: If the two countries should succeed in concluding a second stage of strategic arms limitation, this would give a fresh impulse to detente, stimulate a restraint in the arms race throughout the world and improve the international climate.

On the other hand, it is not hard to imagine what would happen in the absence of such an agreement--the danger of competition, the building-up of military arsenals and the addition of more and more new types of mass destruction weapons would, in this event, continue. An increase in tension and mutual mistrust and suspicion would be the first result of such rivalry. The arms race would be raised to a new level with all the subsequent consequences for the cause of peace and security.

It is precisely from the interests of peace and a desire for concrete measures to restrain the arms race that the Soviet Union is approaching the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks with the United States. We know well that back in November, 1974, a Soviet-U.S. Summit meeting was held in Vladivostok, which led to an understanding on the conclusion of a long-term agreement on strategic offensive arms limitation between the Soviet Union and the United States. Having assessed the situation from all angles, the sides concluded at that time that it was possible to conclude an agreement the following year, 1975. But nearly 3.5 years have passed since then, and the agreement still has not been signed.

[Kosovan] Moreover, the impression is being formed that the more real its conclusion becomes, the fewer unsolved problems remain, the more obstacles the U.S. side tries to pile in the way of a successful conclusion of the talks. What's going on?

[Druzhinin] The answer, undoubtedly, lies in the internal political situation in the United States, in the acute struggle over a future agreement being waged between various U.S. political circles. The crux of the matter lies in the fact that the U.S. Government is demonstrating indecision and inconsistency and is acting while looking over its shoulder at those forces who, from the very beginning, were against concluding an agreement and are doing everything to disrupt it, leaving themselves free to promote an uncontrolled nuclear-missile arms race. What arguments are the enemies of the SALT agreement using? Their main fantasy lies in the fact that the Soviet Union, they say, is steadily increasing its military might and is striving for military superiority over the United States, and in such conditions, a new agreement can only consolidate this Soviet superiority to the detriment of U.S. national interests.

One can only say one thing in this connection: The arguments of the Washington hawks are so groundless and nonsensical that they are being rejected even by official documents published in the United States itself.

Take, for example, the conclusion contained in the recent annual report of the government's Arms Control and Disarmament Agency: Both the USSR and the United States have at their disposal powerful, strategic nuclear forces, the report says. Although the composition of these forces is of a different structure, they are now basically equivalent. And so, our country is not striving for any superiority over the United States. Realistic thinkers in U.S. politics cannot fail to acknowledge this. They cannot fail to see, either, that failure of the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks, and a consequent spiral in the arms race, would bring serious harm to the United States.

[Kosovan] Not so long ago the Senate Budget Committee informed its members in a special memorandum that failure of the Soviet-U.S. talks would mean that the United States would have to spend up to $100 billion on arms in the next 15 years, and this would be an excessively heavy burden on the American economy.

[Druzhinin] However, this is precisely the aim of those American circles who are closely linked with the Pentagon and the military-industrial complex, and who are now pressuring the government to hold off and, if they succeed, even wreck the Soviet-U.S. agreement. The enemies of the arms limitation agreement with the Russians have been given too much freedom of action, the U.S. journal NATION justifiably noted in this connection. Under the pretext of the mythical Soviet threat, the enemies of the agreement are trying to push through plans for the creation of the latest types of mass destruction weapons, like the MX mobile intercontinental missile, the cruise missiles, the new generation of Trident submarines, and so on. Under this pretext the enemies of restraint in the arms race continue to strive for the production of one of the most monstrous types of modern weapons--the neutron bomb--which, outrageous as it may sound, U.S. Defense Secretary Brown recently called a useful weapon.

Neutron Bomb Decision

A few days ago, as is known, President Carter announced that the production of the neutron bombs had been postponed. But such a decision cannot in any way be considered a renunciation of deployment of this weapon. For the President stated that the modernization of missile and artillery systems, which could then subsequently be fitted with neutron warheads, would continue. He also stressed that the final decision on the production of neutron weapons would be made depending on the conduct of the USSR.

In this connection I would like to say that if Washington really planned its policy on the basis of the conduct of our country, then it would follow our example. It should support the many Soviet initiatives on disarmament, in particular agree to renounce production of neutron bombs and, like the USSR, not increase its military budgets. But, of course, it is not a question of the conduct of our country, which is the recognized leader in the struggle for peace and disarmament. And of course, the U.S. paper, NEWSDAY, was right when it wrote that the Russians could reproach the United States for hypocrisy. The rest of the U.S. press were also right when they clearly pointed out that the present position of the Washington administration on the issue of the production of neutron bombs was adopted under pressure from military-industrial circles and that this position, according to their plans, should serve as a means of pressuring the Soviet side at the talks on curbing the arms race.

However, those who like such talks from positions of strength should not forget that blackmail and pressure on the USSR will not lead to the result that they expect. We resolutely reject any attempts to impose unacceptable conditions on us, Leonid Ilich Brezhnev said when he spoke in Vladivostok recently.

The USSR, he stressed, favored a rapid understanding, but only one which would be in strict accordance with the principles of equality and equal security. We do not demand that the agreement should give us any superiority at the expense of the other side, but we expect exactly the same approach from the other side. There can be no other solution.

That is how matters now stand in the area of curbing the strategic arms race. For the U.S. side, which is displaying indecisiveness in the talks, the time has come when it is necessary to make responsible decisions and come toward us [sdelat vstrechnyye shagi]. Further delays and all sorts of maneuvers over the talks can lead only to the very possibility of concluding an agreement being missed. Such a prospect cannot please those who are interested in peace, detente and elimination of the threat of war.

PRC-Japanese Friendship Treaty

[Kosovan] Now let us move to the next subject. You have expressed interest in knowing when Japan and China declared their readiness to conclude a peace and friendship treaty and what is hindering this. I am handing the question over to Vladimir Alekseyevich Krivtsov, deputy director of the Far East Institute in the USSR Academy of Sciences, who is taking part in today's program. Over to you, Vladimir Alekseyevich:

[Krivtsov] As is known, after the end of World War II, during which the Japanese militarists occupied a considerable part of China and inflicted great material damage on the Chinese people, Chinese-Japanese diplomatic relations remained severed for a long time. Chinese-Japanese diplomatic relations were restored on 29 September 1972 as a result of a visit to China by then Japanese prime minister, Kakuei Tanaka, and the signing of a joint statement by the governments of Japan and China. In the statement the two sides agreed to hold talks aimed at concluding a peace and friendship treaty as well as agreements on trade, maritime affairs, air links and fisheries.

Although it was said at the beginning of the joint statement that the normalization of Chinese-Japanese relations was not directed at any third party, the text of the statement included a provision that each of the sides was against efforts by any other country or group of countries to establish hegemony in the Asian and Pacific Ocean area. The appearance of the Chinese-Japanese joint statement and the point opposing hegemony, the concept of which is, indefinite and vague, is evidence that the restoration of Chinese-Japanese diplomatic relations clearly had a purpose beyond the framework of ordinary normalization of relations between two countries. It was also clear that the Chinese leaders were planning to draw Japan into the struggle against the influence in the Asian and Pacific Ocean area of any country which does not suit Peking. For this, incidentally, they paid Japan a high price, waiving claim, in the joint statement, for military preparations running to many tens of billions of dollars.

[Kosovan] It is notable that soon after the signing of this joint statement Tanaka approved a plan to double the country's military spending with the aim of rearming Japan's self-defense forces.

[Krivtsov] China, which until recently had been against Japanese militarism, welcomed this increase in Japan's military spending and declared that it was essential to maintain the Japanese-American security treaty.

These dangerous tendencies in the policies of the Japanese and Chinese governments led to watchfulness and protests in Japanese public opinion and also to a negative reaction in a number of countries of Asia and the Pacific Ocean.

This reaction became particularly strong in November 1974 after the beginning of talks for conclusion of a peace and friendship treaty between China and Japan, in the course of which the Chinese side demanded that the text of the treaty include the point relating to countering hegemony, which was obviously anti-Soviet in intent. The important point here was that, under pressure from the Chinese side, the Japanese side made clear concessions during the talks. At the beginning it had objected to the article on hegemony being included in the text of the treaty. It did not want this article to be included at all. But later it proposed that this article be included in the preamble to the treaty. At the same time, Japan attempted to define hegemony so that it would not appear to be directed against any third country. However, the Chinese side stubbornly insisted on this and, as a result, the talks became deadlocked and were broken off in September 1975.

But the Chinese leadership--this is especially important to bear in mind--intent on creating a broad international front to oppose the Soviet Union, trying to make Japan an important member of this front, continued active efforts to reopen the talks and thereby bring Japan into line with Peking's anti-Soviet strategy. As early as the autumn of 1977 the Japanese press began to write much about the possibility of officially reopening the talks at the beginning of 1978, and much material began to appear in the Japanese press implying that Japan had agreed to the inclusion of the hegemony point in the text of the agreement. At the same time attention was drawn to the fact that the Liberal Democratic Party and Japanese Prime Minister Takeo Fukuda intended to resume the official talks, primarily owing to internal policy considerations and (?not having) a definite strategic plan, for the talks.

[Kosovan] What were these internal policy considerations?

[Kreytsov] With this treaty the Liberal Democratic Party is banking on raising its declining popularity and the prime minister is banking on strengthening his political position and thereby staying in office. Resumption of the talks is probably also tied to an increase in the influence of pro-Peking politicians in the new cabinet Takeo Fukuda formed in November 1977. To win over the opposition within the ruling Liberal Democratic Party to concluding a treaty with Peking, Takeo Fukuda signed a long-term trade agreement with China, covering a period of 8 years and providing for a balanced exchange of goods to the tune of $20 billion.

It is perfectly obvious, however, that the signing of a treaty will put Japan in an extremely difficult position. In the first place, a treaty will not solve some of the most important problems existing between the PRC and Japan. It will leave unsolved the territorial problem of the Senkaku Islands; the Taiwan problem will be frozen and many other questions will remain. But the main point is that a treaty will link Japan with Peking's adventurist foreign policy.

French Election Campaign

[Kosovan] We will now turn to events abroad. There are many letters in the program's mail with questions on the results of the recent elections to the country's National Assembly. The left-wing parties and parties of the ruling coalition received approximately the same number of votes. This is taken from a letter by Timofeyev from Nalchikha, Kabardinskaya Oblast. However, in the first round of the left-wing candidates even gained more votes. Nevertheless, by the end of the letter goes on, the right had a majority in the National Assembly. Your are mistaken, comrades, by Eduard Arsenevich Grivtsov, journalist on international affairs.

[Question] One of the reasons--but not the only one--is the unjust electoral system which makes it possible to redistribute the results of the voting to the detriment of the left-wing parties. What do we mean? The voting takes place in two rounds under the so-called majority system. An absolute majority in the number of votes is necessary for election in the first round; in the second round a relative majority is needed.

On the second round, as a rule, all the rightwing candidates form an alliance, striving to prevent the election of the leftwing candidates at any price. And fairly often they succeed. It is true that in recent years, including the recent National Assembly elections, the leftwing parties also began to form an alliance in the second round.

But it isn't just a question of the majority system. The existing system of constituencies virtually misrepresents the will of expression at the elections. The entire country is split into 474 constituencies, in each of which one deputy is elected, whatever the number of voters in that constituency. But the size of the constituencies and the number of votes in them are by no means the same. Thus, what we are talking about is virtual discrimination against the working areas in favor of areas with a more conservative population. As a result of this, considerably more votes are needed to elect a communist candidate than to elect a candidate from the rightwing parties.

This sort of democracy, French-style, is one of the reasons that a virtual incongruity still exists between the country's true sociopolitical appearance and that reflected in the National Assembly. With proportional representation, for which the leftwing forces have been striving for a long time, the number of its deputies would be much greater.

[Kosovan] Undoubtedly, the unjust electoral system is not the only reason for such election results; quite clearly other factors also affected them.

[Gurev] Among these one can name the massive anticommunist campaign conducted by the rightwing forces, using all the means of mass information, including radio and television, and scaring the electorate with new economic troubles and chaos, which would allegedly accompany a leftwing government. Apart from that, there was strong pressure on France from outside, from President Carter and certain NATO military leaders as well as from certain figures of the Socialist International. Differences between the leftwing forces also could not fail to have an effect on the result of the elections.

[Kosovan] What is the present arrangement of political forces?

[Gurev] Of course, we must point out that the results of the elections caused definite disappointment among the leftwing forces and among the French working people in general, who had linked their hopes for an improvement in their situation and for democratic changes with the left.

Nor are the ruling parties inclined to celebrate too much, since the elections reflected a relative equal balance of forces between the rightwing groups and the leftwing opposition. At the same time the number of rightwing deputies in the National Assembly was somewhat reduced.

But the main point is the fact that all the acute problems, around which the election struggle developed, remain. A certain revival of the economy has still not led to a way out of the crisis.

After the elections a new government was formed, again headed by Raymond Barre. According to the first statements by the head of government, his policy will be maintained in a spirit of continuity, both in internal politics and in international relations. The composition of the government has also remained virtually unchanged. The key posts in this government are occupied by the same people we saw in the last government.

All of them are representatives of the two main ruling groups--the Rally for the Republic led by Jacques Chirac, and the Union for French Democracy, created literally on the eve of the elections by several right-center groups. The chairman of the Union for French Democracy is Jean Lecanuet.

Analyzing the results of the elections, the French communists note that the results gained by the leftwing forces are not those for which millions of voters were hoping, justly seeing in democratic changes the only way out of the crisis and onto the path of social progress, and expecting so much from these elections.

[Kosovan] Eduard Arseniyevich, you have called the disagreement among the leftwing forces one of the factors which influenced the outcome of the elections. How might one describe their relations now?

[Gurev] Relations between the French leftwing parties have been fairly complicated. Robert Fabre, chairman of the Left Radicals Movement, for example, has stated that he no longer considers himself bound by the pledges of the joint program. In the Socialist Party the internal disagreements and the pressure of those elements who disapprove of the alliance with the Communist Party and who are now openly demanding a break with it, blaming the communists the lack of success at the elections, are intensifying.

At the same time the leftwing of the Socialist Party favors affirming loyalty to the alliance with the Communist Party and to the strategy of the Union of the Left. In view of Claude Estier, member of the leadership of the Socialist Party, in coming years relations between the leftwing parties will be more competitive.

The Communist Party has recently begun an interparty discussion on the results of the elections and on the Party's policy. The results of this discussion will be summed up at the forthcoming plenum of the Communist Party's Central Committee, on 26-27 April. For the communists, the policy of insuring the unity of workers and democratic forces is not a tactical device but a long-term course independent of election campaigns and other transient circumstances.

The French communists are now recalling the words of Maurice Thorez, that unity is a constant struggle, a daily resolute work with the aim of rallying all owrking forces on a class basis, requiring persistent efforts to overcome the obstacles hindering joint action by the working class and other democratic forces. Neither the results of the elections nor the complications between the leftwing forces can remove the objective social basis on which the workers movement is developing in France, as in the other capitalist countries.

The elections reflected the relatively equal balance of forces between the ruling coalition and the leftwing parties. This situation and the sharpening of class contradictions, in view of the many unsolved problems, make new political battles in France virtually inevitable.

DISARMAMENT REMAINS MAIN CONCERN OF EAST-WEST RELATIONS

LD141525Y Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 10 Apr 78 p 3 LD

[V. Nekrasov article: "A Time of Important Decisions"]

[Text] To finally eliminate the threat of nuclear war, to insure that the positive changes in international relations become lasting, to make the process of the development of detente irreversible--the efforts of the foreign policy of the Soviet Union and fraternal countries of socialism are concentrated on this. In this connection increasing significance is attached to practical measures to reduce the danger of war, end the arms race and move toward real disarmament. The prospects for the future development of civilization depend to a significant extent on how these tasks are resolved. The forthcoming special session of the UN General Assembly in May-June, devoted to disarmament, thus assumes particular significance in the cause of the struggle for the consolidation of universal peace and security.

In spite of the fact that in the seventies progressive, peace-loving forces headed by the Soviet Union have managed to achieve a turn from the "cold war" to detente, the militarist aggressive circles of imperialism are making continual attempts to undermine this process. Under cover of slanderous propaganda on the growth of the "Soviet threat" they are trying to achieve military advantages for themselves and to open the floodgates for a new stage of the arms race.

In reality, as is well known to everyone, no military threat from the Soviet Union has ever existed. "We are improving our defense with one aim: to reliably defend the gains of Great October and firmly protect the peaceful labor of the Soviet people and our friends and allies," Comrade L.I. Brezhnev stated in his speech on the cruiser Admiral Senyavin.

At the same time the forces of the U.S. military-industrial complex and NATO, as well as political circles closely connected with them, are doing everything possible to maintain and fan the flames in the furnace of the arms race. Last year about $350 billion were spent on arms by the world as a whole. Roughly 20 million people were under arms and, including those in support functions and in military production, the number of people cut off from productive work exceeded 50 million. American imperialism leads in the arms race. Military and related expenditure already swallows up as much as 15 percent of the entire U.S. national income.

The main instrument used to block the processes of the further relaxation of tension is NATO. In 1977, the military spending by this aggressive grouping exceeded $165 billion. In accordance with programs being elaborated and already being partially implemented to strengthen NATO's military readiness, along with an increase in the bloc's nuclear potential, troops equipped with conventional weapons are to be significantly strengthened. The conference of the NATO Council, with the participation of heads of state and government, which is assembling in Washington (as if by accident, at the same time as the special session of the UN General Assembly) will be devoted to a significant extent to these questions.

At the Belgrade meeting of states which participated in the all-European conference, the delegations of the United States and some of its NATO allies essentially rejected the realistic platform designed to strengthen military detente in Europe, which was proposed by the Soviet Union and warmly supported by other socialist countries.

At the same time a 3 percent annual increase in the military budgets of states in NATO's military organization is being implemented.

Washington is trying to strengthen in every way its "military presence" on the European continent. As President Carter recently reported, there are already about 350,000 American soldiers in Western Europe, or, in NATO terminology, in the "European theater." But that is not enough for the Pentagon.

Attention cannot fail to be attracted to the fact that the present tendency toward attempts to begin a new twist in the arms race coincides with a sharp exacerbation of socioeconomic contradictions in the capitalist world, above all in Western Europe. Incidentally, this was mentioned with soldierly frankness recently by American General Haig, supreme NATO allied commander in Europe. "...We are now concerned," he said to a U.S. Senate committee, "...with security not only in the sense of defense against attack, but also in the broader sense of our future capacity for dealing with unprecedented economic, social and political difficulties." Thus, the arms race, the buildup of military efforts in Western Europe is a means of combatting the upsurge of the democratic, antimonopoly movement caused by the economic crisis--this is the conclusion which suggests itself.

But there is another fact, which is directly pointed out by certain American press organs, quoting appropriate U.S. government documents. Under cover of the present arms buildup in Europe, the journal NATION writes: "The United States is preparing for a possible intervention in the Near East or the Persian Gulf region," where the United States obtains 25 percent of all the oil it consumes. Thus, an American mobile strike force in Europe has been proposed, which could be sent to fight the national liberation movement in other parts of the world, primarily in the Near East.

The progressive world public notes with concern that the Pentagonstrategists and their NATO allies are undertaking energetic measures to increase the number of so-called forward-based nuclear weapons in Europe. They state more and more insistently that hostilities using "tactical" nuclear weapons must be regarded as a practical possibility and that leaders of Western European countries must begin to plan for such an eventuality. In this connection one cannot fail to notice the persistent attempts by militarist circles to erase the distinction between tactical nuclear and conventional weapons, to simplify as much as possible the procedure for the use of such weapons. In preparation for the possibility of a tactical nuclear war, and counting on erasing the distinction referred to, there are now plans for the creation and deployment on West European territory of a new barbaric, destructive weapon--the neutron bomb. General Haig was again more than frank in speaking of this: "The adoption of the neutron bomb will give politicians more freedom in the use of nuclear power."

The neutron bomb was described as a weapon "which will have unforeseen consequences" by E. Burhop, president of the World Federation of Scientific Workers. By its nature the neutron bomb, like all nuclear weapons, is a weapon intended primarily for use on the enemy's territory. Thus, in the West, it is justly called a "destabilizing factor" in the international situation. The most reactionary and aggressive imperialist forces already see the neutron bomb as a definite means of torpedoing the process of the relaxation of tension, wrecking the Soviet-American Strategic Arms Limitations Talks and complicating the talks on reducing armed forces and armaments in central Europe and the talks on the complete and universal banning of nuclear weapons tests.

The whole world was involved in the protest movement against the production of neutron weapons. Such a scale and such militancy has not been seen in the last 10 years. In these conditions there are continual attempts to push the bomb through by the "back door," using it as blackmail at disarmament talks between East and West, and then intending to deploy it, referring to the "intransigence" of the Soviet side. Last Saturday U.S. President J. Carter announced the decision to "postpone the production of the enhanced radiation weapon." At the same time the President is leaving open the possibility of using this weapon. Thus the present decision in no way signifies a renunciation of preparations for the production and deployment of neutron weapons.

The position of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries in the face of all these maneuvers is clear and unambiguous. The only possible sensible decision on the question of the neutron weapon lies in the mutual renunciation of its production. This is precisely the purpose of the draft convention to ban neutron weapons, which was introduced in the Disarmament Committee. In the event the Western side refuses serious talks, as Comrade L. I. Brezhnev stated, "we will be faced with the necessity of responding to this challenge to insure the security of the Soviet people and their allies and friends."

The arms race, the Soviet Union points out, must be stopped in every respect. You cannot close the channels for some types of weapons and at the same time open up for other, still more refined and dangerous ones. In the decades since World War II the Soviet Union has introduced more than 100 proposals to curb the arms race, banning nuclear weapons, reducing military budgets and so forth. Guided by the foreign policy programs adopted by the 24th and 25th CPSU congresses, the Soviet state is striving to halt the further buildup of new armaments and to insure that the positive process of peaceful coexistence and mutually advantageous cooperation wins out over the process of actual preparation for war.

It is from these positions that the Soviet Union and fraternal countries of socialism are approaching the forthcoming special session of the UN General Assembly, relying on the fact that it is intended to help end the deadlock on disarmament questions. The socialist countries proceed from the premise that the main goal must be universal and complete disarmament under strict international control and that measures to limit armaments must not violate the interests of any side's security or lead to any unilateral advantages. An important condition for strengthening a favorable climate for disarmament would, in their opinion, be the affirmation everywhere of the principle of the nonuse of force in international relations. An equally important condition for restraining the arms race must be the ending of the qualitative improvement of arms, primarily of weapons of mass destruction, and the creation of new types and systems of such weapons, including neutron weapons.

Mighty forces capable of setting an insuperable obstacle in the path of militarist, aggressive circles are now acting in the arena of history. The task is to bring these forces fully into play to force the retreat of those who are interested in continuing the arms race and exacerbating international tension.

UNITED STATES

STATE DEPARTMENT ADVISER COMMENTS ON IMPORTANCE OF SALT

LD1714425Y Moscow TASS in English 1324 GMT 17 Apr 78 LD

[Text] New York, April 17, TASS--M. Shulman, special adviser to the U.S. State Department, spoke in an interview with the newspaper New York TIMES on the forthcoming Soviet-U.S. talks in Moscow with the participation of U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance. He said: The indications of the Soviet attitude that we have received are that they do want the negotiations on the limitation of strategic arms to succeed. The issues are very complicated and even with the best will on both sides, they would be difficult.

Leonid Brezhnev's speech in Vladivostok was a very sober assessment of the importance of the SALT negotiations as the most urgent item on the Soviet-American agenda, M. Shulman said.

According to M. Shulman, the talks between the USA and the Soviet Union are at a very important stage. If no SALT agreement is concluded in a sensibly clear future, both sides will, most probably, continue developing and deploying additional systems of weapons, and this will, in particular, create new problems in case of attempts in the future to stabilise the strategic balance.

NEUTRON BOMB DECISION 'NO ALTERNATIVE' TO TOTAL BAN

LD1709949Y Moscow MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 11 Apr 78 p 4 LD

[M. Stoyanov commentary: "Ambiguous 'Postponement'"]

[Text] A press statement by a White House spokesman stands out among the official interpretations of U.S. President J. Carter's decisions to "defer production" of the neutron bomb. The statement reveals one of the aims pursued by this "good will gesture," as they are attempting to present Carter's aforementioned step to the world public. The spokesman said that if the United States decides to manufacture and deploy the neutron bomb, then it will be clear to all political factions in the Western alliance (that is, the ruling bourgeois parties of the West European NATO countries) as well as to the whole world that "this was done as a result of lack of restraint on the part of the Soviet Union...."

Let us examine the quote. It reflects Washington's desire to shift responsibility for a possible future decision to manufacture the neutron bomb onto...the USSR. What such a possibility does not exclude was confirmed by U.S. Defense Secretary H. Brown, speaking on television. He stated outright that his department continues to regard the neutron bomb as a "useful addition to the American nuclear arsenal." He also stressed that the President's decision will not affect work on the creation of neutron bomb carriers. The Pentagon chief particularly noted that the postponement announced by the White House leaves open the possibility of starting production of the neutron bomb in the future.

For, as is known, J. Carter stated that he gave instructions to modernize missiles and shells for "combat elements with an enhanced radiation effect" when he announced his decision. Thus, the machinery to prepare nuclear warheads for Lance missiles and eight-inch artillery shells which could carry neutron charges is in full operation.

[illegible] the announced postponement, judging from some statements in the U.S. [illegible] apply pressure on U.S. West European partners, on whom they have so far not succeeded in foisting the neutron bomb.

Washington does not conceal the fact that the United States intends to turn the neutron bomb into some kind of "bargaining chip" during talks with the Soviet Union on strategic arms limitation and into a kind of "trump card" which they hope will help them gain unilateral advantages. It is hardly necessary to state that attempts to exert pressure on the Soviet Union are completely hopeless. "It is time it was understood," H. Scoville, secretary of the American Association of Arms Control Supporters, stated quite justifiably recently in demanding that the U.S. Government resolutely renounce neutron bomb production, "that we cannot talk with the Russians from a position of strength and cannot impose our will on them."

The ambiguous position occupied by the White House on the question of creating this monstrous means of mass human destruction shows that Washington is taking no notice of this truth. Instead of pronouncing a precise and clear "no" to the neutron bomb it is resorting to patently unattractive maneuvers.

Of the reasons for the U.S. President's decision, apart from those already named, the following considerations were also of substantial significance. The Washington administration was forced into a "postponement" by the indignation of world public opinion, both within the United States and especially in Europe, at the Pentagon's plans.

The American ruling circles are thus attempting to squash the powerful wave of protest against the manufacture of the neutron bomb. Moreover, the Washington administration has made a "gesture" on the threshold of the special UN General Assembly session which, for the first time in the history of the UN, will be devoted to disarmament.

Those are the real and unpublicized aims of the decision announced by the White House.

Postponing production of the neutron bomb can in no way satisfy the demands of millions of people to ban it once and for all. It is nothing more than a tactical move under forced circumstances.

There is not nor can there be any alternative to the clear and specific proposal by L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, that a joint agreement be reached to refrain from neutron bomb manufacture. Not temporarily but forever.

Only real actions by Washington in this direction can serve as proof of the sincerity of its statements concerning its desire to curb the arms race. Actions, not declarations.

Diversionary Maneuver

LD171203Y Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 13 Apr 78 p 3 LD

[Yu. Kashin article: "Diversionary Maneuver"]

[text] U.S. President J. Carter has announced his decision to "postpone production" of the neutron bomb. At the same time he has disclosed that work will continue on modernizing the delivery vehicles for this weapon--the Lance missile and the 8-inch artillery shell--so that neutron warheads can be installed rapidly on them if necessary.

Thus this is not an unconditional renunciation of the production and deployment of this sinister weapon but merely a temporary postponement of the start of the neutron conveyor. In the meantime this new type of weapon of mass destruction will certainly be improved.

How can this step by the American President be assessed? It is perfectly clear that the White House has decided to embark on a diversionary maneuver in an attempt to counter the wave of protest in the world. This has been done overtly to please the U.S. military-industrial complex and NATO militarist circles. There can be no doubt that this is an attempt to impose, by hook or by crook, a new spiral of the arms race upon the people and to push the world toward a nuclear catastrophe. This is why the peace-loving public is continuing its struggle against the neutron death.

The attempts to accuse the Soviet Union of lacking restraint look clumsy against the background of the American President's surrogate decision. The whole world, including the United States, knows that it is precisely our country which put forward the clear proposal regarding the mutual renunciation of production of neutron weapons. Speaking in Vladivostok, L.I. Brezhnev declared: "It is time that certain Western leaders really pondered their responsibility to their own people and to all these people for the fate of peace and really displayed readiness to take effective steps to curb the arms race."

It is not ambiguous phrases and vague promises but a precise and clear renunciation of the further escalation of the arms race which the world's peace-loving people expect from the West's leaders.

Congressional Opposition

LD130920Y Moscow TASS in English 0854 GMT 13 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Washington, April 13, TASS--Ever wider sections of American opinion urge President Carter to take a decision on the final renunciation of the plans for the development of the neutron bomb. Conclusive evidence of this was furnished by a debate on the neutron weapon, opened in the House of Representatives on Wednesday.

Congressman Paul Simon said that the manufacture of new types of weapons did not strengthen the security of the United States. Richard Ottinger, member of the House of Representatives, said that the greatest danger of the neutron bomb was that it increased the probability of the use of nuclear weapons. Its use is bound to lead to the development of any conflict into a disastrous nuclear clash. Representative Elizabeth Holtzman, Democrat from New York, said that over 100 congressmen had already expressed their opposition to the neutron bomb. She hoped that the President would go further and declare his full renunciation of the plans for its development. Representative Robert Drinan pointed to the futility of attempts by the United States at gaining strategic superiority over the USSR through the development of new types of weapons.

Many congressmen emphasised that West European opinion was sharply opposed to the Pentagon plans for deploying the neutron bomb on the territory of Western Europe. Representative Theodore Weiss emphasised that not a single national leader of any NATO country had supported in public the deployment of the neutron bomb on his territory.

Many congressmen protested against the provocative campaign launched in the American press by the "hawks" against an imaginary "Soviet menace." They said that the sponsors of the campaign wanted to fan military psychosis in the United States and to bring pressure to bear on the public and Congress with the object of further stepping up the arms race.

FORTUNE MAGAZINE DISTORTING SOVIET ECONOMIC PROGRESS

LD180649Y Moscow EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA in Russian No 16 Signed to Press 10 Apr 78 p 22 LD

[V. Polyakov article: "Lack of Information or Misinformation?]

[Excerpts] The Journal FORTUNE, an organ of U.S. industrial and financial circles, has recently stepped up its publication of material devoted to the Soviet economy. The urge to do this might have been welcomed had an objective approach to the essence of the problem been taken. This cannot, however, be said of certain material in FORTUNE. One gains the impression that it is pursuing the aim of sowing distrust of the possibilities of developing Soviet-U.S. economic relations and "retarding" the cooperation of the two countries.

When Wishful Thinking Is Indulged In

It is risky these days simply to oppose cooperation between countries with different political and economic systems. But undermining this with deliberate misinformation is a less dangerous and a well-trodden bourgeois propaganda path. It seems that FORTUNE has embarked on this path. It has disseminated fables about the Soviet economy, counting on influencing those U.S. business circles which are advocating cooperation with the Soviet Union.

But what is FORTUNE scaring them with? In the journal's opinion, the USSR economy is experiencing a recession. In particular, it asserts that in a speech delivered at a USSR Supreme Soviet session the Gosplan chairman painted a gloomy picture for the future, predicted a slump in the development of the Soviet economy, and so forth. The intention is simple: Maybe the uninformed U.S. reader will believe this, since reference is made to the USSR Gosplan.

But what was actually discussed at the USSR Supreme Soviet session? Analyzing the development of industry, the keynote speaker stressed that all sectors of industry developed further in 1977. The increase in industrial production was greater than planned. Taking into account the expected fulfillment of the 1977 plan, the volume of industrial output over the first 2 years of the 5-year plan would increase by 10.9 percent and would be in line with the 5-year plan targets.

And this is how the situation in agriculture was assessed at the USSR Supreme Soviet session. As a result of the implementation of broad measures of mechanization, the chemicalization of production, and land reclamation, the average annual gross output of agriculture over 1976-1977 increased 6.6 percent in comparison with the last 5-year plan. Average annual grain production will be close to the 5-year plan targets and will amount to 209.6 million tons compared with 181.6 million tons in the Ninth 5-Year Plan.

And finally, concerning the 1978 plan, the keynote speaker said: The 1978 plan submitted for examination provides for a further growth of the country's economy and the enhancement of the people's well-being.

Specific figures for the growth of real per-capita incomes and the construction of homes, schools, hospitals and sanatoriums then followed. Where then, it may be asked, is the "gloomy picture" which FORTUNE writes about?

Certain Comparisons

Touching on economic relations between the United States and the USSR, the author of the article perceives the reason for their inadequate development in the weakness of the Soviet economy, which he himself has imagined. Understandably, the journal cites neither figures nor facts characterizing the USSR's national economy. However, when assessing the economic development of a country it is impossible to dispense with real indicators. The strength or weakness of an economic system can be perceived in the dynamism of the basic indicators, and in the existence or absence of crisis phenomena, inflation and unemployment. If assessment of the economies of the USSR and United States is approached with this yardstick, quite a different picture emerges.

Volume of the two countries' industrial production (1950--1):

	USSR	United States
1960	3.0	1.5
1965	4.6	2.0
1970	6.9	2.4
1976	10.0	2.9

It can be seen from these figures that the Soviet economy has not experienced, nor could it have experienced the crisis phenomena which typify the U.S. economy. Let us add that, in terms of the volume of many important items of output, the USSR has outstripped the United States. The Soviet Union produces more steel, coal, oil, cement, mineral fertilizers and so forth than the United States.

The dynamic development of the Soviet economy attests to the advantages of the socialist system of economic management, and its planned progression. The U.S. economy presents quite a different picture.

The U.S. journal complains about the reduction in the volume of U.S.-Soviet trade. But it accuses the Soviet Union of reducing this trade because, in the opinion of the journal, the Soviet Union does not have enough hard currency to pay for purchases.

That this is not the case is indicated by the rapid growth of the USSR's foreign trade with developed capitalist countries such as the FRG, France and a number of others, with which commodity turnover has multiplied several times in recent years.

An analysis of the essence of the problem shows that the reasons for the inadequate development of Soviet-U.S. economic, scientific and technical cooperation ought to be sought in places other than those that FORTUNE examines. No country, the United States included, counts on purchasing trade goods solely with hard currency. Trade is above all the sale of goods based on reciprocity.

Opportunities for the deepening and expansion of trade, economic, scientific and technical relations were created by the conclusion of a whole series of agreements between the USSR and the United States at summit level. Unfortunately, the U.S. side has violated the existing accords. "A quite important element of Soviet-U.S. relations," Comrade L. I. Brezhnev said at a session of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, "is our economic, scientific and technical cooperation. However, even here the artificially created difficulties are far from being overcome. [paragraph continues]

Basically they are connected with certain U.S. congressional decisions, which we rightly assess as an attempt to interfere in our affairs."

This is the real cause which is retarding the development of cooperation in general, and trade in particular, between the USSR and the United States and which FORTUNE is reluctant to acknowledge.

When launching the magazine FORTUNE, H. Luce counted on its becoming an economic adviser to big business. Now that many U.S. businessmen are seeking specific opportunities to develop economic cooperation between the United States and the USSR, the items published in the journal FORTUNE are, to put it mildly, not promoting the cause of improving Soviet-U.S. economic relations.

ISRAEL'S WEIZMAN CLAIMS IGNORANCE OF CLUSTER BOMB PACT

LD171338Y Moscow TASS in English 1045 GMT 17 Apr 78 LD

[Excerpts] New York, April 17, TASS--The NEWSWEEK magazine published a report claiming that the Israeli Defence Minister 'Ezer Weizman "did not know" that there was an agreement between Tel Aviv and Washington banning Israel to use U.S.-made cluster bombs for offensive actions.

The U.S. administration has refused to take any steps to restrict the use of U.S.-made weapons by Israel in the future. This stand of the USA, which condemns by word of mouth Tel Aviv's aggressive actions, but no in fact gives a green light to it for the use of the American weapons, can be evaluated only as open encouragement of the aggressor. [sentence as received] With this state of things, the references that the head of the Tel Aviv military department (?did) not allegedly know the terms of the American-Israeli agreement look a clumsy farce apparently designed to try to justify the actions of the Israeli military.

SENATOR KENNEDY CALLS ISRAELI INVASION 'TRAGEDY'

LD121540Y Moscow TASS in English 0831 GMT 12 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Washington, April 12 TASS--Senator Edward Kennedy said Israel's armed invasion of southern Lebanon became a tragedy for the civilian population of that country and brought them numerous hardships and suffering.

Speaking in the Senate he said hundreds of people were killed or wounded, and unexploded ordnance is jeopardising the life of many others. Two hundred thousand south Lebanese and 65,000 Palestinians--almost two thirds of the population of the Israeli-occupied territory--had to abandon their homes and become refugees. Schools, dwelling houses and public buildings were destroyed or damaged. Refugee camps and whole villages wiped out. The senator pointed to the necessity of support for the international efforts to establish peace in the area and render help to the aggression victims.

U.S. PLANS FOR INVASION FORCE, SINAI BASES ALARM ARABS

LD1716O1Y Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 16 Apr 78 p 3 LD

[From the International Military Political Review by Maj Yu. Gavrilov and V. Vinogradov: "The Near East in the Pentagon's Plans"]

[Text] Speaking in the Washington foreign press correspondents club this April, U.S. Defense Secretary H. Brown declared that the Pentagon had devised plans for the armed invasion of the Near East in the event of the "danger" of the curtailment of oil deliveries to the United States. Energy Secretary J. Schlesinger had voiced his opinion on this same topic somewhat earlier. He told a U.S. Army Association audience that Washington intends to "insure the real safety" of oil sources in the Near East. The Pentagon chief described this as "a task of a military nature", which might require "resolute action" on the part of the United States.

This is not the first time that representatives of the U.S. administration have made threats of direct military intervention in one of the most explosive regions of the world. The same J. Schlesinger, when he was U.S. defense secretary, spoke plainly about the possibility of sending U.S. troops into Arab countries in the event of an embargo on oil deliveries to the United States. Washington not only discussed this possibility, but even issued instructions to individual Marine units to conduct the appropriate training at bases in Texas and California, where natural conditions are similar to the Arab deserts.

But that was earlier. Now the Pentagon has begun creating special "invasion forces" which, according to NEWSWEEK, will be ready instantly to move to the Near East. They will consist of two airborne assault divisions and a division of Marines, totaling 100,000 men. Judging from these schemes, the Baghdad newspaper AL-JUMHURIYAH wrote: The United States is not even considering abandoning its "position of strength" policy toward the Arab oil-producing states.

While Pentagon figures are engaged in creating their intervention corps and the ships of the 6th and 7th Fleets are plowing through the waters of the Mediterranean Sea and the Indian Ocean, in immediate proximity to the Near East and Persian Gulf, Israel is playing the part of the loaded pistol held to the chest of the Arab countries. The Zionist state long ago proved itself as the most active champion and defender of U.S. imperialism's interests. Its armed forces are experienced in desert warfare and also in capturing Arab oilfields, as was the case in the Sinai. In a 1976 issue of U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT, H. Khan, director of the Hudson Institute, described the kind of role which the United States expects Israel to play in its strategic policy. He declared that "if a new Near East war breaks out, the United States will have no way of preventing Israelis from making their way through to the Persian Gulf....They will be able to go all the way to the Persian Gulf and this would radically alter the situation on the world oil market."

At the same time it should not be forgotten that the United States is arming Israel with the latest weapons ranging from missiles to aircraft. Over the last 10 years Israel has received U.S. arms worth $14.2 billion. The modernization of the Israeli Army is now in full swing with U.S. assistance.

The unfailing support from across the ocean makes the Israeli "hawks" more impudent. Thus Israeli General A. Sharon, who is a member of the cabinet, advised U.S. Senator Javits "not to worry" over the fact that Arab oil might influence America's Near East plans. He asserted that Israel is itself capable of "deciding" the oil question if the need arises.

Gambling on Israel as the defender of U.S. interests in the Near East, the United States is at the same time seeking to further intensify its permanent military presence in that region. For this purpose Washington is intensively pushing the idea of concluding a trilateral agreement among the United States, Israel and Egypt. This agreement provides for the creation of a major U.S. airbase in Sinai, where Israel's military airfields are now located. According to U.S. strategists, the Washington POST writes, the existence of such a base on the one hand will enable the United States "to insure its interests and the interests of NATO, and especially the safety of oil shipments from the Arabia Peninsula to the countries of the West, and on the other hand will help get the Egyptian-Israeli talks moving again, for the "disputed land" in Sinai will go neither to Egypt nor to Israel, but to the United States, which will transform it into a unique "barrier" between the two countries.

The Pentagon's dangerous schemes and the growth of U.S. military activity in the Near East and the Persian Gulf are producing mounting alarm among the Arab public.

LATIN AMERICANS DETERMINED TO RESIST U.S. DOMINATION

LD140914Y Moscow TASS in English 0743 GMT 14 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, April 14 TASS--Rejecting Washington's political and economic diktat, the peoples of the Latin American Continent are coming out with growing determination against U.S. military interference in their affairs, KRASNAYA ZVEZDA stresses. They demand abrogation, revision or denunciation of the inter-American treaty of mutual assistance that was signed by Washington and Latin American countries in 1947, the article says.

There has been a marked increase lately in public protests against Washington's attempts to safeguard its interests in Latin America by strengthening the military-dictatorial regimes in the continent. As is known, the lion's share of U.S. "aid" goes to Paraguay, Nicaragua, Guatemala, Uruguay and Chile, i.e. countries where elementary human rights are unceremoniously violated.

The situation in most of the Latin American countries in recent years is characterized by numerous public manifestations against U.S. imperialism and the local reaction it supports, KRASNAYA ZVEZDA writes. Serious disagreements in relations between the United States and Venezuela and Brazil were brought out again during President Carter's recent visits to these countries. Venezuela and Ecuador strongly resent the pressure which is being put on them by the United States as on members of the Organisation of Petroleum-Exporting Countries. The United States decision to raise customs duties on imported sugar by 50 percent caused numerous public protests in Latin America.

The policy of expansion and economic aggression , pursued by U.S. monopolies, meets more and more often with joint opposition from Latin Americans. "The struggle of the peoples of Latin America against the dominance of U.S. imperialism and multinational companies is gaining momentum with each passing day. All progressive mankind solidarizes with this struggle."

CARTER CONTINUES CAMP DAVID MEETING TO IMPROVE IMAGE

LD171105Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1645 GMT 17 Apr 78 LD

[From the "International Diary" program with Yevgeniy Kachanov]

[Text] U.S. President Carter has continued his Camp David conference with the members of the administration for a second day. Reporting this, REUTER notes that the President has perhaps never convened such a representative meeting of the Cabinet and advisers in the entire 14 months of his administration. Possible ways and means for restoring the U.S. public's trust in the White House are being discussed. The results of a public opinion poll have aroused the anxiety of the government. According to this poll, only 46 percent of those polled have approved the activity of the President.

Because a number of serious socioeconomic problems have not been solved and no achievements have been scored in foreign policy, the prestige of the present administration has been undermined among the population of the United States.

HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTE CAMOUFLAGE FOR U.S. INTERFERENCE

LD141602Y Moscow TASS in English 1533 GMT 14 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Washington, April 14. TASS--TASS correspondent Yuriy Levchenko reports: The U.S. ruling circles disregarding the generally accepted standards of international life, do not give up their interference in the internal affairs of foreign states under the demagogic slogan of "defence" of human rights. Moreover, Washington is even trying to seal legislatively such a "right" to interference. Following congressmen D. Vascell and D. Fraser, who have recently tabled in the House of Representatives of a bill on the setting up of a so-called institute of human rights and freedoms, a similar bill has been tabled in the upper chamber of the Congress by senators C. Pell, R. Clark and Ch. Mathias.

The new body, as the bill proclaims, is called upon to promote respect of human rights abroad. It is to be headed by a director nominated by the President and approved by the Senate and will have an annual budget of five million dollars.

A closer familiarization with its objectives and functions, however, does not leave any doubt that the verbiage about the defence of human rights is designed only to camouflage the crude interference of the United States in the internal affairs of sovereign states. This, one of the tasks of the institute will be promoting the publication and distribution abroad of books, articles and other works banned on political grounds. The activity of the "institute" will be directed by the U.S. State Department.

The provocative nature of the new fuss started by Washington around the so-called "violation of human rights" in other countries is not doubted by any one in other countries. Millions of Americans are deprived of basic human rights, including the right to work, education and medical attendance and are suffering from brutal economic, national and racial oppression.

[illegible] in the U.S. Congress did not stir a finger to mend things in this field in their own country. On the contrary, as the American United Nations Association said, they are opposing the ratification by the United States of international covenants on the protection of human rights, including the international covenant on economic, social and cultural rights and the international covenant on civil and political rights. The association stresses that it would be rather difficult to implement in practice these provisions as they run counter to the American laws and the very economic system of the United States.

The human rights "advocates" are making short shrift of those who dare to protest against the crying social injustice of the American establishment, who rose to struggle for civil rights. As is commonly known, John Harris, a civil rights activist, has been sentenced to death. The Wilmington Ten, the Charlotte Three, Assata Shakur and many other victims of political repressions in the US have been languishing behind prison bars for many years now.

GOVERNMENT TRIES TO BLAME U.S. WORKERS FOR INFLATION

LD152318Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1753 GMT 15 Apr 78 LD

["Persecution--Laying One's Own Faults at Somebody Else's Door"--TASS headline]

[Text] Washington--TASS correspondent Vitaliy Gan reports: The U.S. Government has begun a new "antiinflation" campaign with unseemly attempts to compromise the country's working movement in the eyes of the public. Ignoring the actions of the monopolies, which constantly inflate prices, the authorities criticize the working people for "excessive" wage demands which conform to the constant growth in the cost of living in the U.S.

The role of the "strike force" in the onslaught on the interests of the American working class, which extracts concessions from the capitalist only through persistent struggle, has been assigned to the Council for Wage and Price Stability. At the White House's instruction, this government agency chose to first attack the allied union of U.S. miners, which controlled a recently ended strike, the longest in U.S. history. As a result of the miners' strike, which lasted for more than 3 months, the entrepreneurs finally agreed to satisfy a number of the strikers' demands for wage increases and an improvement in work conditions.

Not concealing its irritation at the miners' victory, the council published a "special report" to defame the trade union. This tendentious document points out that the new labor agreement between the trade union and the mine owners is "costly" and allegedly damaging to other Americans. The authors of the report attempt to frighten the country by citing a further rise in inflation and new difficulties in economic recovery. In support of its "arguments", the council cites preliminary statistics about the growth of prices for electricity and steel but "forgets" to mention that the increase is a direct result of the monopolies' policy. As the CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR says, "inflation is convenient for big business, furnishing it with a pretext for posting excessive prices."

The council's report has evoked legitimate indignation among Americans, who view it as the authorities' clumsy attempt to distract attention from their own inability to curb inflation. Meanwhile, the problem continues to become more acute. As the NEW YORK TIMES reports, the rate of inflation has now risen to 4.8 percent. However, the government has still not proposed any genuinely effective solution to the problem, and instead resorts to persecuting "unruly" sections of the U.S. working class.

CHINA

USSR, PRC SIGN TRADE AGREEMENT FOR 1978 IN PEKING

LD181048Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1025 GMT 18 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Peking--An agreement between the governments of the USSR and PRC on goods trade and payments for 1978 has been signed here. On the Soviet side the agreement was signed by I.T. Grishin, deputy minister for foreign trade of the USSR, and on the Chinese side by Wang Jui-sheng, deputy minister for foreign trade of the PRC. Li Chiang, PRC foreign trade minister, A.A. Brezhnev, USSR charge d'affaires ad interim in the PRC, and other officials were present at the signing ceremony.

MILITARY DEVELOPMENT DOMINATES PRC MODERNIZATIONS PROGRAM

LD180713Y Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian 12 Apr 78 p 14 LD

[B. Krymov article: "The 'Four Modernizations' and One Desire"]

[Text] Britain's DAILY TELEGRAPH recently published a report from its correspondent in China. The report began:

"People and horses remain the main draft force in the city of Hsian, where the Chinese plan to manufacture jet aircraft engines under license from Rolls Royce. Men and women are harnessed like beasts of burden and drag terribly heavy loads for many miles. Some people push wheelbarrows laden with bales of cotton, scrap metal and construction materials. The strongest people are harnessed to straps and drag carts loaded with concrete or wooden beams. Men and women dragging unbelievable loads are a common phenomenon in China," the correspondent continues, "but in a city where the aircraft engines will soon be manufactured under British license, this contrast between old and new is particularly sharp."

The final touch to this generally impressive picture is bewildering. Where has the bourgeois press seen "the new" here? In the fact that Hsian will manufacture engines for military aircraft? If so, then this is a continuation of Mao Tse-tung's old course of "preparing for war." If the Peking leaders unceasingly spend funds for military development instead of spending them to improve the working people's living standards and ease their unbearable labor--then there is by no means anything "new" in Peking's adventurist policy. Yes, there is a contrast here, but it is the contrast between the needs of the people and the country's national interests and the ambitious aspirations of the ruling clique. If the picture painted by the DAILY TELEGRAPH correspondent is examined from this viewpoint, it is really very characteristic of China today.

The new Peking leadership is now tirelessly publicizing the slogan of the "four modernizations" (or "modernizations in four aspects")--modernization of agriculture, industry, science and technology and, finally defense.

The "four modernizations," according to the Peking leaders' statements, will help increase labor productivity, develop the economy and introduce order and discipline. But if we analyze the same statements and propaganda speeches, all this is subordinated to a single aim--gaining time to accumulate military-strategic forces. It is no accident that whatever "modernization" is discussed, emphasis is given primarily to the military "aspect". For instance, speaking recently at the all-China conference on the development of science, PRC State Council Deputy Premier Teng Hsiao-ping said: "The key element of the modernization in four aspects is the modernization of science and technology." Why? Very simple: "Without modern science and technology it is impossible to create modern defense."

Hua Kuo-feng, premier of the State Council, repeatedly remarked at the recent session of the National People's Congress: "It is essential to prepare for war," "to step up preparations for war," "to raise work on preparation for war to a new level." This appeal was heard persistently throughout the 3.5 hours of his report.

One more fact is characteristic. The very first decree of the new NPC Standing Committee was to extend the term of service in the Chinese People's Liberation Army.

At the end of January, PEOPLE'S DAILY published an appeal to "the population of the countries of the second world," i.e., the capitalist countries of Western Europe, to oppose the Soviet Union during the "third world war" which, the newspaper asserts, will inevitably explode. When it does occur, Peking states, "the proletariat of these countries should join the front ranks (!) and struggle" against the Soviet Union.

Without, incidentally, depending on "the support of the world proletariat," the Peking politicians and propagandists are flattering above all the monopolists. PEOPLE'S DAILY proved "theoretically" that in the era of imperialism, the capitalist circles could wage a perfectly "just war", but under "certain conditions"--provided this war was aimed against the Soviet Union.

These bows and appeals are achieving complete mutual understanding with the reactionary forces in the West. Rightists of all stripes and hues are welcoming the fact that Peking "is rejecting the attempts at rapprochement made by the Soviet Union." Springer's DIE WELT commented joyfully on Teng Hsiao-ping's statement during a talk with F. Zimmermann, a representative of the rightwing West German opposition. "He (Teng Hsiao-ping--B.K.) reiterated the opinion that a big war is inevitable" and that "the East--by which Teng means China and Japan--and the West--Europe and the United States--must take preparatory steps." "Zimmermann," DIE WELT states triumphantly, "agreed on all points with Teng's world-historical (!) analysis."

And not just Zimmermann. Klaus Meinert, formerly linked with Hitler's intelligence service, who recently returned to the FRG from China, "agreed on all points" with the Peking propagandists of war. In his OST-EUROPE article, K. Meinert wholeheartedly welcomed Peking's officially proclaimed intention "to unite with all those who are prepared to struggle against the main enemy, that is, against the USSR." This course is highly desirable to Meinert....

And so the seal of Nazi approval has been given. Only two facts distress K. Meinert and those like him. First, in China itself the chauvinist, militarist plans have attracted far fewer people than originally expected. Peking propaganda is branding and "warning" certain "elements" which "are sliding into positions of conciliation" (for those who understand the language of the Peking propagandists this clearly means: If "individual elements" are discussed repeatedly, it is a serious matter). Second, the Western population is for some reason not eager to implement "Mao Tse-tung's ideas," which are militarist zones. Even pro-Maoist forces in Europe, which have been loyal Peking allies for many years, have recently, as OST-EUROPA notes angrily, been disavowing the "Three Worlds theory" and disagreeing with Peking's line. What is to be said of the broad public circles if they simply laugh at the great-power claims of the "middle empire?" The weekly THE ECONOMIST asserts that people in Britain say that "Peking, in drawing Britain and the West into an alliance against the USSR, is prepared to fight the Russians--to the last British and French soldier."

But the proverb has it that God does not give horns to the cow which butts....

CEMA SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE MEETS IN MOSCOW

LD180815Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 April 78 p 5 LD

[Text] TASS--The 19th session of the CEMA Committee for Scientific and Technical Cooperation was held in Moscow 11 through 13 April. Certain questions connected with the elaboration of draft long-term special-purpose programs were examined. Great attention was devoted to examining cooperation in 1977 in resolving scientific and technical problems involved in the coordinated plan for multifaceted integration measures by the CEMA member countries for 1976-1980.

The committee also discussed the progress of cooperation in creating biomedical instruments and apparatus for scientific research and clinical medicine. Other questions in the sphere of scientific and technical cooperation between CEMA member countries were also examined and appropriate resolutions were adopted on them.

WARSAW PACT FOREIGN MINISTERS TO MEET IN SOFIA

LD171510Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 17 Apr 78 LD

[Text] It has been agreed that a session of the Committee of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the member states of the Warsaw Pact will take place in Sofia in the second half of April.

POLAND'S GIEREK ARRIVES IN MOSCOW, MET BY BREZHNEV

LD171516Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1507 GMT 17 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Moscow--17April TASS--Edward Gierek, first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee, arrived in Moscow today on a brief friendly visit at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee. Edward Gierek was met at the airport by Leonid Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; Konstanin Kulakov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; and other officials.

[Moscow TASS in English at 1225 GMT on 18 April notes that "a meeting of Leonid Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, president of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, with Edward Gierek, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party, who arrived in Moscow for a friendly visit, took place today."]

PZPR'S KUROWSKI VISITS MOSCOW, CONFERS WITH KULAKOV

LD171513Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Apr 78 p 4 LD

[Text] In accordance with the plan for interparty relations between the CPSU and the PZPR, Z. Kurowski, member of the PZPR Secretariat and chief of the Central Committee department of light industry and domestic and foreign trade, was in Moscow 10-12 April. He held meetings and talks in the CPSU Central Committee departments of Light and Food Industry and Trade and Domestic Services, in a CPSU Central Committee section and at the USSR Gosplan. F.D. Kulakov, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, received Z. Kurowski and had warm and friendly talks with him with the participation of Ya. P. Kabkov and F.I. Mochalin, chiefs of CPSU Central Committee sections; G.A. Chukanov, deputy chief of a CPSU Central Committee section; and also Polish Ambassador K. Olszewski.

MOSCOW NEWSMAN ON DEMICHEV'S VISIT TO YUGOSLAVIA

LD172326Y Moscow in Serbo-Croatian to Yugoslavia 1730 GMT 17 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Petr Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and Soviet minister of culture, visited Yugoslavia from 10 to 17 April at the invitation of the Federal Executive Council. He was received by Edvard Kardelj, member of the SFRY Presidency and the LCY Presidium; Stane Dolanc, secretary of the Executive Committee of the LCY Central Committee Presidium; and Veselin Djuranovic, president of the Federal Executive Council. Demichev also had meetings with Aleksandr Grlickov, secretary in the Executive Committee of the LCY Central Committee Presidium, and Trpe Jakovlevski, president of the Federal Committee for Science and Culture.

During the talks, which took place in a warm and friendly atmosphere, Yugoslav leaders informed Demichev about the preparations for the 11th LCY Congress. Petr Demichev spoke about the successful implementation of the decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress. Both sides stressed that the most important contribution toward the development of fruitful cooperation between the two parties and countries is provided by the meetings between Leonid Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and Josip Broz Tito, president of the SFRY and of the LCY.

Views were also exchanged on issues of promoting Soviet-Yugoslav cooperation, among other things, in the sphere of culture.

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED BY SFRY ON VISIT BY TURKEY'S ECEVIT

LD172032Y Moscow TASS in English 1553 GMT 17 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Belgrade, April 17, TASS--The relaxation of international tension should become a durable comprehensive process, stresses a communique on the results of the official [words indistinct] visit paid by the Prime Minister of the Republic of Turkey Bulent Ecevit to Yugoslavia.

In the course of Yugoslav-Turkish negotiations, the sides noted that the observance of the principles of the final act of the Helsinki conference is a prerequisite of consolidation of peace, security and mutual understanding between peoples. The sides also declared that effective measures on disarmament should be taken in the interests of the whole of mankind.

They denounced Israel's armed intervention in Lebanon and stressed the need of immediate withdrawal of the Israeli troops from the territory of that country. It was emphasized that a peaceful, comprehensive settlement of the Middle East crisis (?must) be based on Israel's withdrawal from all occupied Arab lands and granting the legitimate national rights to the Arab people of Palestine. The sides denounced all forms of colonialism and racial discrimination, expressed support of the national-liberation movements of the African peoples fighting for independence.

When discussing the Cyprus problem, the Yugoslav side expressed the hope for the earliest resumption on the constructive basis of the negotiations which will bring positive results in the interests of both communities in Cyprus.

The communique favourably assesses the state and prospects of Yugoslav-Turkish relations.

EEC ATTEMPTS TO INCLUDE WEST BERLIN IN POLICIES REVEALED

LD171456Y Moscow TASS in English 1343 GMT 17 Apr 78 LD

[Text] West Berlin, April 17 TASS--TASS correspondent Yuriy Borisov reports: The leaders of the Common Market headquarters in Brussels have been engaging lately in irresponsible ventures. They openly put the interests of their organisation at the service of those rightwing circles in the FRG which seek to undermine the four-power agreement in West Berlin.

R. Jenkins (Britain), chairman of the Commission of the European Communities, has made a trip to West Berlin in order to make it appear as if the EEC's sphere of operation includes West Berlin. He said bluntly here that this city is a "natural" integral part of the EEC and demanded the Common Market's considerable and visible presence in West Berlin. This assertion, however, has nothing to do with realities. Indeed, Mr Jenkins knows well that West Berlin does not belong and has never belonged to the EEC and hence it can not be its integral part.

It is also well known to R. Jenkins that West Berlin--as is clearly said in the four-power agreement--is not part of the FRG and can not be administered by it. Therefore the FRG's membership of the Nine does not give any legal grounds for including West Berlin within the sphere of operation of the EEC. Thus, the chairman of the Commission of European Communities is led along, willingly or not, by those who seek to hamper the process of relaxation of international tension and normalisation of the situation around West Berlin. Members of various organs of the so-called European Parliament have also been travelling extensively lately. Thus the Christian Democratic group of this Parliament held a meeting here recently, and still earlier three committees of the same Parliament met on the Spree banks. There are plans to hold, evidently for provocative purposes, a congress of "European Christian Democrats" in West Berlin early in June. Next year it is planned to have West Berlin take part "in direct elections to the European Parliament." All indications are that there is nothing casual about these actions. A well planned campaign seems to be under way, a campaign which may have serious consequences for West Berlin, in the first place, because it violates the city's special political and legal status.

BREZHNEV RECEIVES FRG'S EGON BAHR FOR TALKS

LD180916Y Moscow TASS in English 0900 GMT 18 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, April 18, TASS--Today Leonid Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, received Egon Bahr, federal secretary of the SDPG, who is currently in Moscow, and had a conversation with him.

In the light of the forthcoming visit to the FRG, some topical matters of Soviet-West German relations, as well as a number of international problems which are of interest to the Soviet Union and the FRG, were touched upon in the conversation.

BREZHNEV VISIT TO BONN, RELATED PROBLEMS DISCUSSED

LW171505Y Moscow in German to Germany 1108 GMT 17 Apr 78 LW

[Lev Bezymenskiy commentary]

[Text] Dear listeners, you will certainly agree if I say that the chief event regarding present Soviet-West German relations is the forthcoming visit in May of CPSU General Secretary and Supreme Soviet Presidium Chairman Leonid Brezhnev to Bonn.

This is not the first summit meeting between the leaders of our countries nor is it Leonid Brezhnev's first trip to the Federal Republic. Therefore the historical aspects of the development of our relations constitute the background of what is going on today.

Leonid Brezhnev's earlier visit to Bonn in May 1973 was a very important milestone on the road to the implementation of the 1970 Moscow treaty. In those days I was in the federal capital, observing together with hundreds of colleagues the extremely intensive schedule of the Soviet state and party chief in Bonn. I now have taken the notebooks on that visit out of my desk, thumbing through them with interest. Talking about the 1973 visit, one remembers above all the great sincerity and frankness with which the Soviet representative appeared before the politicians and the entire public of your country. I recall quite clearly Leonid Brezhnev's television speech of 21 May 1973. I would like to call your attention to the fact that Leonid Brezhnev then said quite frankly that the Soviet people and thus also its leaders had found it hard enough to open a new chapter in their relations with the Federal Republic of Germany. Leonid Brezhnev also said: We were able to forget [ueberschreiben] the past in our relations with your country, for we do not want it to happen again.

This feeling of historic responsibility is manifest in the whole Soviet policy, and we are always glad if we also see it in our political partners. For this very reason we are analyzing in these days every political act on the Rhine. I am not going to talk about many positive facts of the development of economic, scientific, cultural, technical, and social relations between our countries, since I know that much attention is given to them in the Soviet press and in the programs of Moscow Radio.

But now on the eve of the visit I want to stress that the relations between the Federal Republic and the Soviet Union have a generally European dimension which consists primarily in the fact that we must make every effort for the development of detente and for disarmament. Leonid Brezhnev 5 years ago said quite clearly that the Soviet Union sees in the development of relations with the FRG a fragment of general detente policy. He stated: As important as good relations between our two states may be to our peoples, it is no less important that paving the way for and developing such relations today are part of a more comprehensive process of the fundamental recovery of international life in Europe, and not only in Europe.

In my view one ought to think of this seriously today, as the problems of disarmament and military detente are of vital importance to all countries. In this respect the Soviet Union has always laid its cards on the table, for we hold the view that military detente is possible; that an agreement must be concluded on the renunciation of the first use of nuclear arms in Europe; that the further expansion of military blocs must be prevented; that measures must be taken against the emergence of new mass annihilation weapons. We insist on the adoption of immediate and real actions for the reduction of armaments and forces in central Europe. Finally, we are telling everyone directly, including our political partners in the Helsinki conference, that we consider the emergence of the neutron weapon on the military-political stage as fatal. This is a mass annihilation weapon to be used in the most densely populated areas. I do not have to explain to you where these areas are.

This weapon is a fuse able to explode detente in Europe. If the United States makes the decision on its production, deploying it in the West European NATO countries, then a new round of the arms race will be inevitable. We will not be spared this development by those half-decisions made by President Carter recently. In this responsible case one cannot say "yes and no". All those who value detente and stability in Europe are entitled to demand that the responsible persons make clear decisions. Yes or no--as the Romans said: Tertium non datur.

In his recent Vladivostok speech Leonid Brezhnev reiterated the proposal for the mutual renunciation of the production of the neutron weapon. The Soviet Union on its part will continue its efforts for enforcing a steady advance on the road to military detente and transition to real disarmament. This is our firm policy and we will implement it with steadfastness. Thus a direct bridge is being built between the ideas Leonid Brezhnev uttered in Bonn in 1973 and the present situation in Europe. Therefore, the great and--as one may say--close attention that not only we but also the public of the entire world are giving to the forthcoming visit, is understandable.

AUSTRIAN CP PLENUM DENOUNCES PRC, NEUTRON BOMB

LD180635Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Apr 78 p 5 LD

[Text] Vienna, TASS--A plenum of the Austrian Communist Party [KPOE] Central Committee has taken place here, discussing questions of the economic and political situation in the country, as well as a series of international problems.

F. Muhri, chairman of the KPOE, spoke at a press conference devoted to the results of the plenum which was organized today. In present conditions, he noted, when the authorities are shifting the economic difficulties onto the shoulders of the working people and trying to resolve internal problems at their expense, an intensification of the struggle for profound social transformations in the interests of the working people is necessary.

The plenum sharply criticized the splittist activity of the present Chinese leadership. Speaking of the mythical "Soviet threat" and calling for a strengthening of the NATO military bloc and the production of neutron weapons, the Peking leaders are playing into the hands of the world's most reactionary forces and causing grave damage to the unity and cohesion of the international workers' movement, F. Muhri stressed.

The participants in the plenum fully supported the Soviet Union's proposals on banning the elaboration and production of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new weapons systems, as well as on the mutual renunciation of the production of the neutron bomb. They indicated the need to intensify the struggle against the Pentagon's dangerous plans and to mobilize the broadest strata of the public to this end.

SOVIET DELEGATE ADDRESSES NORWEGIAN CP CONGRESS

LD151951Y Moscow TASS in English 1947 GMT 15 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Oslo, April 15, TASS--The 16th Congress of the Communist Party of Norway continues its work here. P. Nettum, deputy chairman of the party, made [words indistinct] organizational matters, he spoke of the communists' work in trade unions, in youth, women's and other public organizations as well as in the field of culture.

Delegates to the congress who spoke in deliberations, noted the strengthening of the party's ranks on the basis of Marxism-Leninism and principles of proletarian internationalism, the greater scope of work on ideological education of the cadres and the assimilation of the Marxist-Leninist theory by them. The delegates pointed to the necessity to continue to strengthen contacts with the masses, to act as popularisers of the policy and activities of the Communist Party of Norway. Touching upon matters of the international situation, delegates in their speeches condemned Norway's participation in NATO. They noted the great importance which the Norwegian communists attach to the expansion of the peace movement, to the struggle for a ban on neutron bomb, and for ensurance of universal security and international cooperation.

The congress delegates and guests warmly greeted Gennadiy Sizov, the head of the CPSU delegation, chairman of the Central Auditing Commission of the CPSU who read out the CPSU Central Committee's message of greetings to the 16th Congress of the Communist Party of Norway.

He conveyed ardent fraternal greetings to the congress delegates, to all Norwegian communists from Leonid Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet. The delegates and guests of the congress fervently applauded the greetings.

The congress of Norwegian Communists, G.F. Sizov said, met in the situation when the forces of socialism, social progress, the forces of peace and national independence have an ever increasing effect on the course of international development. The building of real socialism in the USSR and the formation of the world socialist system became inspiring factors for the advance of revolutionary and progressive forces in the world.

Our country, our Leninist party, wage an active, purposeful and principled struggle to strengthen peace and friendship among nations, for establishing the principles of peaceful coexistence in inter-state relations, to eliminate the seats of tensions in various parts of the world.

The foreign-policy activities of our party, the Political Bureau of the Central Committee headed by Leonid Brezhnev are aimed at steadily implementing the programme of further struggle for peace and international cooperation, for the freedom and independence of peoples. The programme was adopted at the 25th Congress of the CPSU.

The Soviet Union has invariably put forward and comes forward with concrete proposals aimed at removing the threat of outbreak of new war, at reducing armaments and military budgets, at achieving general disarmament, the head of the CPSU delegation emphasised. He pointed out that Soviet people, like all peoples of the world, are seriously concerned over the Pentagon's and NATO's ominous plans concerning the production of the neutron bomb--the most barbarous weapon of mass destruction, and its deployment in the territory of Western Europe.

The head of the CPSU delegation presented the congress with a souvenir--a portrait of V.I. Lenin. Lenin's ideas, he emphasised, are translated into life in the Soviet Union and in other socialist countries and make triumphant progress throughout the world.

Congress Ends

LD161918Y Moscow TASS in English 1806 GMT 16 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Oslo, April 16, TASS--TASS correspondents Mikhail Kosov and Vojto Leskinen report:

The 16th Congress of the Communist Party of Norway has ended here.

In one of the resolutions it pledges full support of the progressive forces of the country, waging struggle for prohibition of the neutron weapon. The resolution expresses satisfaction with the fact that the overwhelming majority of the deputies of Storting (parliament) declared for prohibition of the neutron weapon. It calls upon the Government of Norway to act in accordance with parliament's decision.

The Congress of the Communist Party of Norway also passed a resolution denouncing Israel's aggression against Lebanon.

The delegates unanimously approved of the manifesto "for active policy of peace." To prevent a new war is a very important task of mankind, the manifesto stresses.

This is in accordance with the letter and spirit of the final act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe.

Meanwhile, the manifesto stresses, that in the recent time the enemies of peace and relaxation of international tension have envigorated their efforts aimed at preventing implementation and further development of the Helsinki accords. The United States and NATO, the manifesto stresses, bear responsibility for the arms race, which is reaffirmed by the plans to start the production of the neutron weapon and deploy it in Western Europe.

The delegates of the congress also passed a manifesto which stresses that the majority of the capitalist countries are now in the grip of an economic crisis, the gravest ever in the postwar time. The consequences of this crisis increasingly stronger manifest themselves in Norway, heavily affecting the working masses, the document points out. In these conditions the working class movement and other democratic forces should unite in the struggle for a change of the economic policy.

USSR'S AFANASYEV, ZAGLADIN IN MADRID FOR PCE CONGRESS

LD171610Y Moscow in English to Great Britain and Ireland 1130 GMT 17 Apr 78 LD

[Text] A delegation of the Soviet Communist Party has arrived in Madrid to attend the congress of the Spanish Communist Party opening on Wednesday. The delegation includes the editor in chief of PRAVDA, Viktor Afanasyev, and the first assistant chief of the International Department of the Communist Party Central Committee, Vadim Zagladin. [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1430 GMT on 16 April notes that this visit is "at the invitation of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Spain."]

PORTUGUESE LEFTISTS FORM 'SPLITTIST' ORGANIZATION

LD171209Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Apr 78 p 5 LD

[Correspondent B. Kotov dispatch: "Rebuff to the Dissenters"]

[Text] Lisbon, 12 April--A "constituent congress," at which the creation of a certain "workers unitary organization"--a new Portuguese leftist-type party--was announced, has been held in the city of Marinha Grande. Its leaders include Major Otelo Saraiva de Cavalho, who "won renown" by his dubious role in the events of November 1975, which led, as is known, to a major defeat for the leftwing military in the Portuguese Armed Forces Movement.

The "congress" adopted program and charter documents which graphically show the splittist and adventurist nature of the new leftist organization. Thus, it was declared that "force must be answered with force, for which arms and organization are necessary." the "manifesto" of the new organization was also published, which is imbued with anti-communist spirit and contains slanderous attacks on the Portuguese Communist Party.

Portuguese communists have exposed the true significance of this splittist gambit. At a time of difficulties and dangers and of attacks by reactionary forces, leftist groupings are being activated everywhere, A. Cunhal, secretary general of the Portuguese Communist Party, stated in a recent speech.

RISING COST OF LIVING IN PORTUGAL REPORTED

LD091235Y Moscow in Portuguese to Portugal 1830 GMT 8 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Under the title "Uneasy Everyday Life in Portugal," the political weekly ZA RUBEZHOM has published a report from Lisbon: Anxiety [words indistinct] and intense hope perhaps characterize the psychological atmosphere in which the average Portuguese is now living, the author, Igor Fesunenko, writes. How could the average Portuguese fail to worry when the prices of foodstuffs, postal rates, rents, water, telephone and electricity are rising? All this has happened since the cost of living increased last year by 27.3 percent, according to official statistics, and the price of foodstuffs went up by almost one-third. A further rise in the cost of living will be an inevitable consequence of the belt-tightening policy proclaimed by the Second Constitutional Government.

The First Constitutional Government under Soares was indeed guided by the same principles. As a consequence of the government's activity the expression capitalist recovery, which means an attack against the workers rights, emerged in the Portuguese political language. Capitalist recovery also stands for the authorities' wooing of big capital and wild attempts to stifle the agrarian reform. The revision of the foreign investment code and the handing of about 80 percent of nationalized industrial enterprises under state intervention or under workers' control back to their former owners, were given as examples of this trend. The Second Constitutional Government, the magazine goes on to say, pursues even more zealously the policy of restoration of positions previously held by local and foreign big capital. Describing to his readers the story of the formation of the new Portuguese Cabinet, Igor Fesunenko points out that the inclusion of Social Democratic Center Party [CDS] representatives caused perplexity and concern in the country. This reaction is perfectly explicable if one recalls that the Socialist Party strategic line rested on a concept of nonalinement. Now, however, the socialist leaders have forgotten their promises, but the Portuguese people did not nor did they forget that the CDS voted against the present constitution.

The Second Constitutional Government, ZA RUBEZHOM writes, began its activity in a rapidly deteriorating political situation. It is revealing that its deterioration is caused by the rightwing forces, whereas the progressive parties and the unions are seeking to prevent a deterioration in the situation. Thus the democratic forces are showing their awareness of the complexity of the situation.

The rightwing forces of reaction and counterrevolution have, on the contrary, stepped up their activity. The passivity and calm of the authorities in the face of the rise of fascism, Igor Fesunenko writes, is surprising, as this not only contradicts the spirit of Portuguese democracy but also the country's constitution itself. Portugal is now experiencing difficult times, the report concludes. The reactionary forces are seeking to launch an open attack. The rightwing forces are raising their arm against the gains of the Portuguese people attained through their long struggle against fascism. Anxiety over the fate of the revolutionary gains is forcing the Portuguese democrats to close their ranks even more tightly and to give an even more vigorous riposte to the reactionary maneuvers.

SOVIET NAVAL SHIPS TO VISIT FRENCH PORT

LD122311Y Moscow TASS in English 2158 GMT 12 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, April 13, TASS--Under an agreement between the Armed Forces of the USSR and France, a Soviet naval squadron including cruiser Murmansk and destroyer Smyshleniy under the command of Rear-Admiral Vitaliy Zub is to pay a courtesy call at the port of Bordeaux from May 10 to 14, the Soviet Army newspaper KRASNAYA ZVEZDA reported today.

UK FOREIGN SECRETARY'S REMARKS ON AFRICA HIT

LD111117Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 9 Apr 78 Morning Edition p 3 LD

[V. Kudryavtsev article: "Contrary to Logic"]

[Excerpt] There are professions in the world which require restraint or at least elementary logic. This applies primarily to responsible politicians. This golden rule has obviously been broken by British Foreign Secretary D. Owen who at a banquet in London on 5 April sharply attacked the Soviet Union and Cuba in connection with recent events in Africa. The content of his speech smells strongly of anti-Sovietism, symptoms of which are displayed in his departure from the actual reality of historical facts. In general, it would be better if the representatives of the British ruling circles did not try to teach other people about African problems. Britain has done too much harm to Africa and its peoples to depict itself as the acme of virtue. The African countries even at the present stage of national independence are only overcoming with difficulty the harsh heritage bequeathed to them by the colonialists, among which Britain undoubtedly occupied first place.

First of all the secretary touched on the situation in the Horn of Africa, blaming the Soviet Union for the situation which has taken shape there. I should like to recall that for many years after World War II Britain kept its occupation forces on Ethiopian territory--a fact which understandably helped to reinforce the feudal-monarchic system to its advantage and undoubtedly assisted the creation of the conditions which are now making Ethiopia's transition into modernity particularly hard. There is no need even to mention British policy in Somaliland (now part of Somalia), where the most merciless dictatorship by a governor general existed. And now, instead of helping to consolidate the independence of the countries of the Horn of Africa, Britain is doing everything it can to upset the situation there.

According to D. Owen, it emerges that the Soviet Union is to blame for the outbreak of war in the Horn of Africa since it armed Somalia and thus enabled it to launch the military conflict. But he should know that in accordance with the 1974 Soviet-Somali treaty the Soviet Union pledged to promote the strengthening only of "defensive potential." The truth is that it was none other than Britain which, by its promises to supply arms, pushed Somalia into a reckless adventure. A fact is a fact.

CPSU OFFICIAL PRESENTS BUST OF JESPERSEN TO DANISH CP

LD121704Y Moscow TASS in English 1613 GMT 12 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Copenhagen, April 12 TASS--A bronze bust of Knud Jespersen was turned over to representatives of the leadership of the Communist Party of Denmark in an official ceremony in the house of the Danish Communist Party here today. The bust of the prominent figure of the Danish and international communist and working class movement, who headed the Communist Party of Denmark for 20 years, was made by Soviet sculptor L. Rastorguyeva. Receiving the bust, chairman of the Danish Communist Party J. Jensen noted Knud Jespersen's important role in the development of the revolutionary working class movement in Denmark, in ideological and organizational consolidation of the Communist Party on the basis of Marxism-Leninism and widening its influence among the working people. Presenting the bust, member of the CPSU CC, First Secretary of the Communist Party of Kirgizia CC T.U. Usubaliyev expressed solidarity with the struggle of the fraternal Communist Party of Denmark for the vital interests of the working class and all the working people, for the triumph of the cause of peace, democracy and socialism. He stressed that Knud Jespersen was a staunch revolutionary fighter and convinced internationalist who made a great contribution to developing and strengthening fraternal friendship between the Communist Party of Denmark and the CPSU, the friendly relations between the peoples of Denmark and the Soviet Union.

PLO'S QADDUMI INTERVIEWED ON MIDDLE EAST SITUATION

LD172210Y Moscow TASS in English 2001 GMT 17 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Beirut, April 17, TASS--Israel's refusal to return all the occupied Arab lands, withdraw troops from the south of Lebanon and the intention of the Tel Aviv leadership to go ahead with its expansionist policy make the Middle East situation extremely explosive. Moreover, open support by the USA of Israel's aggressive policy jeopardizes peace not only in the region but also throughout the world, F. Qaddumi, head of the political department of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, said in an interview with the Lebanese magazine MONDAY MORNING.

He said that the so-called Israeli plan for partial troop withdrawal from the southern districts of Lebanon testifies to Tel Aviv's desire to continue its occupation of these areas in order to hold back the peaceful process in Lebanon and the Middle East.

F. Qaddumi demanded that Israel immediately carry out the Security Council's resolution on withdrawal of troops from the south of Lebanon and said that the Palestine resistance movement will continue its armed struggle against the Israeli invaders for the security, independence and unity of Lebanon.

He assured that the PLO will cooperate as before with the lawful authorities of Lebanon despite numerous difficulties and problems and give them every support in their efforts to end Israel's occupation and to restore peaceful life.

Touching on differences allegedly existing between the USA and Israel, the Palestinian spokesman described them as tactical tricks designed to deprive the Arab people of Palestine of their legitimate national rights, including the right to establish their own independent state.

This follows directly from the secret American-Israeli protocols concerning the second agreement on troop disengagement between Egypt and Israel in the Sinai.

F. Qaddumi sharply criticised President as-Sadat's separate talks with Israel, saying that these talks have weakened the Arab forces, divided the Arab ranks and prompted Menahem Begin to adopt a more irreconcilable position on a Middle East settlement. One indication of this is Israel's aggression against Lebanon, he said.

Highly assessing the joint Soviet-American statement on the Middle East, F. Qaddumi sharply criticised Washington for its departure from the principles set forth in this statement. He said that the Soviet Union, a real friend of the Arabs, constantly displays willingness to carry out the decisions set forth in the statement despite the United States' boycott and separate actions of President as-Sadat.

DAYAN REMARKS ON WEST BANK REGARDED AS MANEUVER

LD171824Y Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1230 GMT 17 Apr 78 LD

[Unattributed commentary: "On the Frenzied Campaign on a So-Called Softening of the Israeli Attitude"]

[Text] Official quarters and newspapers in the United States and Israel are currently engaged in a frenzied campaign lauding the recent statement by Moshe Dayan concerning Tel Aviv's readiness to discuss the future of the West Bank and the Gaza sector. Cairo has joined this campaign to some extent.

The Israeli foreign minister said that the well-known Security Council Resolution No 242 calling for the withdrawal of Israeli forces from the Arab territory occupied in 1967 must be implemented, as the Israeli minister put it, following talks with Jordan. He then reiterated that Israel will not accept the emergence of an independent Palestinian state. Furthermore, Dayan actually confirmed that Israel will not withdraw its forces from the West Bank and the Gaza sector. The Israeli minister noted that Tel Aviv will grant these territories the status of a self-ruled Palestinian area, while keeping all the Israeli settlements that will be protected by Israeli forces. Dayan proposes that this should be regarded as Israeli withdrawal in accordance with Resolution No 242.

Is this logical? Is this not another propaganda maneuver by the aggressor, who endeavors to sell old goods wrapped in a new and more attractive package, goods embodying Israeli expansionist ambitions? The French L'AURORE says that the aim of this is to lift the siege around the Egyptian-Israeli talks. This aim can also be summed up as an attempt to make the facade of the capitulationist policy of the Egyptian leadership look somewhat more attractive. This policy is denounced by the majority of the Arab world.

LEBANON EXEMPLIFIES ISRAEL'S CONTINUING EXPANSIONIST PLANS

LD171321Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 12 Apr 78 Morning Edition p 3 LD

[B. Vikotorov article: "The Aggressor's Tricks"]

[Text] Continuing to receive the all-round support from the United States and using the split in the Arab world caused by the separatist course of the Egyptian president, Israel is making its position on a Near East settlement increasingly tough and is drawing up new expansionist plans regarding its neighboring Arab states. Tel Aviv's refusal to fulfill the UN Security Council resolution demanding withdrawal of Israeli Armed Forces from Lebanon is the latest example of this. Ignoring this decision, the aggressor is employing delaying tactics to maintain control over the Lebanese territory it has occupied. Thus Tel Aviv has put forward a "plan for the phased partial withdrawl of forces" envisaging the invaders' departure only from an insignificant part of southern Lebanon. Total withdrawal is being made dependent on the fulfillment of a number of conditions and has been deferred indefinitely.

But at the same time, in the occupied lands the invaders are hastening to dig in. A puppet administration is being created from representatives of Lebanese conservative forces, and the so-called "south Lebanese army" is being strengthened. We have here an attempt to annex the lands of a sovereign state.

Noting Tel Aviv's growing annexationist appetite, political observers in the Near East are paying attention to its old claims regarding south Lebanon. They do not consider coincidental the fact that Israel once declared the Litani River to be the so-called "red line." It openly threatened military operations if the inter-Arab forces crossed this line in fulfillment of their peace-keeping mission in Lebanon. As early as the civil war in Lebanon, observers point out, Tel Aviv regarded south Lebanon as its "sphere of influence." And now they are trying to put these plans into practice. The American TIME magazine reported a few days ago on the results to which the policy of "strengthening" Israeli influence in this region has led: 2,000 civilians have been killed and 265,000 Lebanese have become refugees, moving to the northern part of the country.

UN Secretary General K. Waldheim has delivered a routine report to the Security Council about the UN peacekeeping force in Lebanon. He noted that in a number of regions of southern Lebanon occupied by Israeli forces there is an extremely tense situation. The UN secretary general stressed the urgent need to fully implement the Security Council resolution calling for Israel to immediately stop its military operations against Lebanon and to entirely withdraw its forces from this country.

SKEPTICISM GREETS ISRAELI PARTIAL WITHDRAWAL PLAN

LD1712O1Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Apr 78 p 5 LD

[Correspondent K. Geyvandov dispatch: "The Aggressor Maneuvers"]

[Text] Beirut, 13 April--In the Lebanese capital the report on Israel's fulfillment of the first stage of its partial troop withdrawal from occupied regions of Lebanon is being assessed with skepticism. According to on-the-spot information being received here the Israeli invaders are continuing to actively strengthen the positions they hold in the region adjoining the south Lebanese port city of Sur. The concentration of the invader's troops around Marj 'Uyun and Al-Khiyam is continuing as before.

Under conditions in which Tel Aviv is sabotaging the fulfillment of its decision to withdraw its forces from the occupied area of Lebanon, the various attempts to distract attention from the continuing intervention are generating particular alarm among the country's progressive public. This is precisely how the plans to provoke clashes between the Lebanese and Palestinians, and also the debates scheduled for 20 April in parliament on the question of the "Palestinian presence" in the country, on which the leaders of the conservative "Lebanese front" are insisting, are being regarded here.

The official organ of the PLO--the newspaper FALASTIN ATH-THAWRAH--has devoted an editorial to the attempts to get the agreements governing relations between the Palestinian resistence movement and the Lebanese authorities annuled. "As far as the agreements concluded by the Palestinian revolution with the Lebanese authorities are concerned," the article states, "the PLO is confirming its determination to strictly adhere to their letter and the spirit and to fully reject attempts to undermine them with the aim of eliminating the Palestinian military presence in Lebanon in accordance with Israel's demands."

LEBANESE POLITICIAN URGES ARAB UNITY BACKED BY SOVIETS

LD1709l3Y Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 12 Apr 78 p3 LD

[Special correspondent A. Agaryshev interview with Muhsin Ibrahim, general secretary of the political bureau of the Lebanese national patriotic forces: "Strength in Unity"]

[Text] [Question] As is known, part of Lebanon's territory is under the occupiers' jackboot as a result of Israel's recent aggression. What aim does Israel have in continuing the occupation of southern Lebanon?

[Answer] Judging from Israeli statesmen's remarks and the aggressors' behavior on the occupied territory, we conclude that Tel Aviv does not intend to withdraw its troops from southern Lebanon. Even if a partial Israeli troop reduction occurs, this will not be done immediately or quickly. The Israeli aggressors have made it their aim to end the presence of Palestinians in the country and to rout the Lebanese national patriotic forces, which cooperate with the Palestinian resistance movement. I wish to emphasize that the Israeli command has not so far been able to fulfill these aims.

Immediately after occupying southern Lebanon, Israel undertook a massive and well-organized political campaign, which became the signal for a consolidation of reactionary forces. Local reaction declares that Lebanon can no longer endure Palestinians in the country and demands the expulsion of the Palestinian resistance movement followed by the settling of the Palestinians in different Arab countries.

However, Lebanese reaction believes in vain that the national patriotic forces will be unable to counter these criminal plans. The people's masses in Lebanon are on the side of the Palestinian resistance movement. During the time since the start of the Israeli aggression in the south of our country we have been convinced that the people's masses are well aware of the nature of the anti-Lebanese plot. They are opposed to the Zionization of Lebanon and to its being turned into a second Israel.

[Question] What can you say about relations between the Lebanese national patriotic forces and the Palestinian resistance movement?

[Answer] We constantly say that these relations are a model of relations between different detachments of the national liberation movement. We have common aims, and at the same time each is aware of his own specific tasks. Each of us understands that by coming out on the side of the Palestinian resistance movement he also protects the interests of his motherland.

Enemies have made considerable efforts to split our unity. They have declared, for example, that by maintaining close links with the national patriotic forces the Palestinians are interfering in Lebanon's internal affairs and abandoning the struggle for their own aims. On the other hand, representatives of local reaction have advised Lebanese patriots: "Let us reach agreement.... There are no insoluble problems between us. We can reach agreement on everything if you stop supporting the Palestinian resistance movement."

I must say that both the Palestinians and the Lebanese national patriotic forces have greeted such attempts with full understanding of the hidden aims for which reaction was striving. This has still further strengthened our ranks in the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples' common struggle against imperialism and Zionism.

[Question] What influence has the Egyptian president's so-called peace initiative had on the situation in Lebanon?

[Answer] We believe that but for the "As-Sadat initiative" Israel could not have realized its aggressive plans against Lebanon or occupied the south. This initiative engendered in Lebanese reaction the desire to cooperate with Israel and the Zionists.

It is not surprising that Egypt's relations with Israel have gotten so far. In recent years the president of Egypt has been pursuing a policy aimed at liquidating the social, economic and political gains achieved by the Egyptian people under An-Nasir and breaking off the friendly relations linking the Arab peoples with the peoples of the Soviet Union and socialist community countries.

Israel--and this has been shown yet again by the recent events in southern Lebanon--is seeking not to settle the Near East problem but to extend Zionist rule throughout the Near East. Israel now wants the Arabs' total capitulation. And it is being helped in this by the capitulatory line of the Egyptian president.

This line can be resisted only if the Arab countries and all detachments of the National Liberation Movement strengthen their unity, backed by the support of the Soviet Union, which has always taken a firm and principled stand on the question of settling the Near East conflict. We patriots of Lebanon adhere to precisely this strategic line.

PROGRESSIVE ARAB INFORMATION MINISTERS MEET IN ALGIERS

LD172232Y Moscow TASS in English 2038 GMT 17 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Algiers, April 17, TASS--A conference of information ministers of the countries, members of the front of the progressive Arab states, which come out against the capitulatory policy of the Egyptian president, as-Sadat, has opened here. It is attended by representatives of Algeria, Libya, Democratic Yemen, Syria and also the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Discussed at the conference will be questions of coordination of activities of mass media of these countries and the Palestine Liberation Organization in the struggle against the conspiracy of imperialism in the Middle East.

PARTY BACKS EGYPTIANS ACCUSED OF ANTIGOVERNMENT ACTS

LD171804Y Moscow TASS in English 1718 GMT 17 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Cairo, April 17, TASS--The National Progressive (left) Party of the Arab Republic of Egypt has circulated a statement of a group of Egyptian citizens, who will soon face trial on charges of "instigation" for anti-governmental actions in winter last year. A spontaneous people's uprising is known to have flared up in Egypt in January 18-19, 1977 in connection with the authorities' decision to cancel the state subsidies, intended for maintaining stable prices of commodities.

But who are really guilty of January events, the statement runs, are those who wanted to make the Egyptian people starve for the sake of parasitic strata who now have the decisive say in the official Egyptian policy. They do not care for the interests of their motherland, they do not care for Egypt's relations with the peoples of the world fighting for freedom, equality and progress. They sent rifles against the participants in the demonstrations, who went out into the streets to protest against starvation. They put to the people an alternative: Either to die of starvation or to be put into prison. But none of those who shot into the back of heroes of the January popular uprising have faced trial. They believe that using their dirty methods they will be able to shirk responsiility to the people for their crimes, for the deaths of the fallen heroes.

We are tried for having been in the ranks of the popular masses during the uprising. The laws, that were adopted yet at the time of the British rule, that were borrowed from the fascist regimes, were used to level charges against us. We protest not only against the trial of us on the basis of the laws which defend the anti-democratic order, but also against the dictatorial arbitrary rule in general.

The statement demands the release of all political prisoners, the repeal of all extraordinary laws which make it possible to put to trial people for their progressive views. The statement demands that the patriotic forces be given the right to form their organizations.

The people's support of these demands, the document says in conclusion, will protect not only us, but also the motherland, the best sons of which are kept silent and imprisoned so that parasitic elements could sell the Egyptian people to American imperialism.

EGYPT'S 'NEW WAFD' PARTY HAS SAME POLICIES AS OLD

LD141904Y Moscow TASS in English 1828 GMT 14 Apr 78 LD

[Text] London, April 14 TASS--The anti-popular line of the Egyptian authorities, persecution of progressive leaders and democrats in Egypt have created a favourable atmosphere for the activation of the country's most reactionary forces. An example of this is the revival under a new shingle of the Wafd Party.

In the pre-revolutionary years this party devotedly served the big landowners and the compradore bourgeoisie.

As pointed out by the British MIDDLE EAST magazine the leaders of the "new Wafd" make no bones of the fact that the new party is actually a continuation of the old one. As a matter of fact, it is headed by the old leaders. The post of chairman of the "new Wafd" is held by the former general secretary of the "old" Wafd, the big landowner Fu'ad Siraq ad-Din, while its general secretary is Ibrahim Faraq, one of the oldest Wafdist leaders. Both of them served sentences in their time for crimes committed against the Egyptian people.

According to the MIDDLE EAST magazine, Siraq ad-Din publicly calls the 1952 revolution, which overthrew the corrupt monarchist regime, a "coup d'etat" and slanderously claims that there is "no crime which this putsch did not commit".

The "new Wafd" calls for the liquidation of all the progressive gains of the Egyptian revolution, demands that the efforts of the state should be exerted to support the private sector. It is not without reason that the commission, charged with the creation of the new party, defined the "new Wafd's" place in the political system of Egyptian society as being "close to the extreme rightists". As a matter of fact, As-Sadat's reactionary policy suits the "new Wafd" completely. Siraq ad-Din told a MIDDLE EAST correspondent that the "nation needs" As-Sadat and informed him that his party even proposed to amend the Egyptian constitution in order to give As-Sadat a chance to remain the country's president for a third term.

It is not difficult to draw the conclusion that the creation of the "new Wafd" party has the purpose of further strengthening the positions of the right-wing forces in Egypt, which uphold the interests of the exploiters and of the foreign monopolies.

ISRAEL EXPLOITING OIL IN OCCUPIED LANDS, KAMIL SAYS

LD171634Y Moscow TASS in English 1524 GMT 17 Apr 78 LD

[Text] New York, April 17, TASS--Egypt's Foreign Minister Kamil sent to United Nations Secretary General Kurt Waldheim a letter in which he admitted that Israel of late has been intensively prospecting for oil in the occupied Sinai Peninsula and in the coastal waters of the Sinai. The Israeli authorities use the assistance of foreign oil corporations and actively cooperate with them for the purpose.

Though Israel's actions are described in the letter as "illegal", observers point out that it is the Egyptian leadership itself that is responsible for them since the plundering by Tel Aviv of natural wealth of the Sinai is a consequence of the capitulatory course of Egyptian President as-Sadat aimed at concluding a separate deal with the Begin government.

Over the five months that have passed since the beginning of his notorious "initiative", As-Sadat showed so many times the weakness of his position and readiness to make concessions that the Israeli leaders got convinced that the dialogue with the present Egyptian leadership can and must be conducted from the positions of strength.

The Israeli leaders demand in the most categorical form that during the signing of the separate agreement Egypt should give up its right to keep troops in the Sinai Peninsula and insist on the preservation of Israeli air bases and a network of Jewish militarized settlements in the Sinai Peninsula. Tel Aviv expressed many times its claims to the oil reserves of the occupied Egyptian territory. To confirm these claims, Israel started recently commercial development of a new oil deposit in the Gulf of Suez, that is, in Egypt's territorial waters.

"Concern" expressed by the Egyptian minister in a letter to the United Nations secretary general is not in keeping with the stand of As-Sadat who said at a meeting with the leader of the so-called Israeli Labour Party, Peres, that after the conclusion of the separate deal he intends to advance the plan of economic development of the Sinai Peninsula jointly with Israel. But the Israeli part of this plan, by all indications, is already being implemented and what remains to be done is to "allow" Egypt to participate in this plan.

SYRIAN PEACE COMMITTEE'S 10-17 APRIL USSR VISIT REPORTED

LD172124Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 17 Apr 78 LD

[Text] A delegation of the Syrian Peace Committee headed by George Saddiqni, chairman of the committee and member of the leadership of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, was in our country from 10 to 17 April at the invitation of the Soviet Peace Committee.

As a result of the exchange of opinions which took place between the representatives of Soviet and Syrian peace champions, a joint statement was adopted which notes the exceptional significance of the talks between Comrade Brezhnev and Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad in February 1978, which determined the prospects for the development and strengthening of Soviet-Syrian relations of friendship and cooperation. The sides resolutely condemned Israel's aggression against Lebanon. The statement stresses that a firm peace in the Near East can be achieved only on the basis of a comprehensive peace settlement, including a just resolution of the Palestinian issue.

USSR-SYRIA COOPERATION ON EUPHRATES, OTHER PROJECTS REVIEWED

LD172238Y Moscow TASS in English 1949 GMT 17 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, April 17, TASS--The Soviet Union will help Syria in operating the Euphrates hydropower complex, a TASS correspondent was told at the USSR State Committee for External Economic Ties. For this purpose a group of Soviet specialists will leave for Syria shortly.

The construction of the complex was completed in March. The 8 generating sets of 100,000 kilowatts each make it possible not only to satisfy the country's requirements in electricity but also to export electricity to neighbouring countries. The reservoir formed after the building of the dam on the Euphrates will make it possible to irrigate 600,000 hectares of land. As it [words indistinct] the main energy base in the country, because of the low generating cost of the electricity all capital outlay for the construction of the Euphrates hydropower complex will be recouped already in 1979.

Business contacts have been established by the two countries in many fields of the economy. More than a half of industrial projects in Syria have been built or are being built with the Soviet Union's participation.

Owing to the USSR's unselfish aid, Syria became the first Arab country to start oil production on a commercial scale without the participation of Western monopolies. The utilisation of Soviet experience enabled Syrian oil workers to exceed the 1968 level of oil extraction by approximately ten times.

Cooperation in agriculture is successfully developing; thus Syria has been provided with equipment for the setting up of state farms. Irrigation systems are being built.

The stable and large-scale nature of the economic cooperation of the two countries encompassing key branches of the country's economy was noted in the joint communique on the results of the February visit to the USSR by the general secretary of the Arab Socialist Renaissance Party, President of the Syrian Arab Republic Hafiz al-Asad.

YAR CHIEF OF STAFF CONCLUDES OFFICIAL USSR VISIT

LD171141Y Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 13 Apr 78 p 3 LD

[Text] Lt Col A.S. ash-Shaybah, chief of General Staff of the Armed Forces of the Yemen Arab Republic, who has been in the Soviet Union at the invitation of Marshal of the Soviet Union N.V. Ogarkov, chief of General Staff of the Armed Forces and USSR first deputy defense minister, has concluded his official visit. During the visit Lt Col A.S. ash-Shaybah, and the persons accompanying him were received by Marshal of the Soviet Union N.V. Ogarkov.

Lt Col A.S. ash-Shaybah left Moscow 12 April. Lt Col A.S. ash-Shaybah was seen off at Sheremetyevo airport by Marshal of the Soviet Union N.V. Ogarkov, Mar Avn A.P. Silantyev, Flt Adm G.M. Yegorov, Col Gen Avn G.P. Skorikov, Col Gen G.I. Salmanov, Lt Gen V.D. Serykh and Maj Gen G.A. Borisov.

The send off party included A.A. al-Matari, Yemen Arab Republic ambassador to the USSR.

LIBYA HOSTS WORLD CONFERENCE OF SOLIDARITY WITH CHILEANS

LD171737Y Moscow TASS in English 1656 GMT 17 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Tripoli, April 17, TASS--An international conference of solidarity with the people of Chile opened today in the Libyan town of Benghazi. Attending it are representatives of progressive socio-political organisations and committees of solidarity with the Chilean people from many countries of Europe, Asia, Africa and Latin America. Present as guests of honour at the conference are courageous Chilean patriots who are continuing the struggle against the fascist junta outside of Chile or underground.

The conference was opened by Andres Pascal Allende, a nephew of the late president of Chile who was killed during the fascist coup. He told the participants in the conference that working people in Chile are rightless and that the fascist junta is committing acts of arbitrariness with the obvious connivance and tacit approval of the United States and other imperialist powers in the West. He stressed the firm resolve of the Chilean people to struggle for the overthrow of the fascist regime, for the restoration of democracy in Chile, for the country's independence from forces of imperialism and international reaction.

U.S. BEHIND FASCIST ACTS IN TURKEY, POLITICIAN SAYS

LD171643Y Moscow TASS in English 1516 GMT 17 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Ankara, April 17, TASS--Armed fascist-minded groups, which commit acts of violence in Turkey, are acting on the instruction of American special services. This has been stated to the newspaper CUMHURIYET by Mehmet Aybar, general secretary of the Socialist Party of Turkey. These groups, he said, are seeking to create in the country an atmosphere of tension and instability, to create a pretext for the army's interference into the political life, as it took place in March, 1971. Having noted that exactly rightwing reaction now presents the greatest danger for the cause of democracy, Mehmet Aybar denounced the actions of left extremists who by their provocative actions play into the hand of the forces which seek to aggravate the situation in Turkey.

Speaking at a meeting in Mersina, Ahmet Kacmaz, general secretary of the Turkish Socialist Workers Party, has said that after the fall of the previous government fascist-minded elements lost the support given to them by the authorities. They have now stepped up their activities to regain their positions, he said.

GREECE WITHDRAWS SHIPS FROM NATO JOINT EXERCISE

LD132020Y Moscow TASS in English 1945 GMT 13 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Athens, April 13, TASS--Ships of the Greek Navy terminated their participation in the exercises of the joint armed forces of NATO in the Mediterranean and returned to their national bases. Ships of the navies of the United States, Italy, Greece and Turkey participated in these exercises code-named "Dense Crop-78". The newspaper TO VIMA reported that Greece's military command decided to terminate participation in the exercises and to recall its ships in connection with serious differences that arose between the main staffs of the navies of Greece and Turkey.

GREEK COMMUNIST PARTY PREPARING FOR 10TH CONGRESS

LD172040Y Moscow TASS in English 1808 GMT 17 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Athens, April 17, TASS--Preparations for the 10th Congress of the Communist Party of Greece, to open on May 15, have entered the concluding stage. The preparations embrace all sections of the party--from the Political Bureau of the Central Committee to primary party organisations. Questions of the party's activities at the [words indistinct] stage were considered, for instance, at the April 15-16 conferences at party organisations of the eastern part of continental Greece. The participants in the conferences discussed accounts on activities of the party committees of regions, analysed the course of preparations for the congress at the party organisations, set new tasks in further intensification and consolidation of the party's link with the masses. The Central Committee of the party is receiving these days hundreds of proposals and recommendations aimed at improving the work of the party, at strengthening its link with the masses. These letters are printed in the communist press. Such a pre-congress dialogue, the newspaper RIZOPASTIS writes in this connection, is of great significance. The newspaper stresses that now that reaction is trying to limit the liberties and the rights of the working people further consolidation of the party is of a particular significance for the popular movement as a whole.

U.S. AFRICA POLICY UNCHANGED, KENYA PAPER SAYS

LD141438Y Moscow TASS in English 1346 GMT 14 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Nairobi, April 14 TASS--Washington's policy in Africa has not been subjected to any serious changes. It is as earlier aimed at cooperation with the racialist regimes for the sake of preserving U.S. capital investments, establishing U.S. domination in the continent, writes the Kenyan newspaper STANDARD.

By word of mouth the USA declares that the African problems should be resolved by the Africans themselves. But in fact it is acting quite differently. Thus, in the early Sixties, the STANDARD notes, it interfered in the internal affairs of Congo. An attempt was recently made to interfere in the affairs of Angola with the assistance of the South African Republic and splitter groupings. The USA is also making efforts to influence developments in the Horn of Africa. Thus, the Kenyan newspaper draws the conclusion interference in the affairs of other states and peoples, whether it be the south of Africa or Vietnam, for the defence of its selfish interests has become a cornerstone of U.S. foreign policy.

Some American figures have lately expressed "concern" over Cuba's aid to a number of African countries, the article notes. But they never say a word about the fifteen hundred American mercenaries fighting on the side of the unlawful Rhodesian regime, or the American troops scattered all over the world.

As far as Cuba is concerned, the Kenyan newspaper stresses, it is doing its internationalist duty at the request of the legitimate governments, whose sovereign rights cannot be denied by a single American leader. The Africans have the right to decide themselves who their friends and who their enemies are. And this is by no means an American but an African problem having nothing to do with the speculation on "national security" of the USA, the STANDARD notes.

ZIMBABWE FRONT SEEKS TRANSFER OF POWER TO AFRICANS

LD172237Y Moscow in English to Africa 1630 GMT 17 Apr 78 LD

[Arkadiy Butlitskiy commentary]

[Text] Neither Washington nor London has concealed that such a strong Anglo-American team has gone to Africa in another attempt to solve the Rhodesian problem in the interests of the West. This means to retain positions of foreign capital intact in the country, retain Zimbabwe in the sphere of its political influence and turn it into a stronghold of South Africa.

Some class aspects of Western long-term plans toward Rhodesia have been revealed by the United States ambassador to the United Nations, Mr Andrew Young. He reaffirmed that the so-called Zimbabwe fund is being created in the United States to help raise and consolidate the class of African capitalists in the country. According to Mr Young, this local bourgeoisie is to become an additional obstacle to prevent the spread of communism rather widely, identifying it in part with basic social and economic reforms and political changes in the African countries. But shortly before the visit by the high ranking Anglo-American delegation the Smith regime stepped up the course of events to the extent of distributing the ministerial posts (?safely), significantly that each of the nine African ministers is only a shadow of the white ministers. [sentence as heard] Each African minister must act exactly the way the white minister does. No decision by an African minister is valid without the permission of the white, or to be more precise, racist, minister. Isn't it a remarkable example of equality before the law, not to mention a measure of the African puppets' vows of loyalty to the idea of African majority rule?

Some people in Washington and London would now be only too pleased to sanction officially the internal settlement introduced by Smith's racists. But the authority and influence of the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front are so strong that Anglo-American politicians would like to draw this organization into an internal settlement at any cost. But this time too the reply of the front has been clear-cut. Its leaders spoke out for transferring power to the real representatives of the African majority. They demanded that the racist military and repressive machine be liquidated and a new army under the front's control be created. They voiced their resolve to continue the armed struggle to win real freedom for the Zimbabwe people.

Nkomo, Mugabe Position

ID1723042Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1930 GMT 17 Apr 78 LD

[Text] U.S. Secretary of State Vance and British Foreign Secretary Owen arrived in Salisbury today. The very fact that this was the first visit in the history of racist Rhodesia by the heads of the foreign policy departments of the United States and Britain to the capital of a country whose ruling regime they do not recognize is significant. Western bourgeois press organs justify the visit with references to Washington's and London's imaginary concern for a peaceful settlement in Rhodesia, where armed struggle by the people of Zimbabwe for freedom and independence has brought the illegal regime of the white minority to the verge of catastrophe.

In fact the United States and Britain have been trying for 2 years, at first secretly and then openly, not to secure peace and independence for Zimbabwe--not by any means--but to maintain their positions there. According to UN figures, there are at the moment about 200 British and 60 U.S. companies operating there, occupying dominant positions in the mining industry. And in order to insure that the monopolies are able to continue pumping profits out of Rhodesia, Washington and London are striving to establish a pro-Western regime with minimal participation by Africans in government and parliament.

It is no secret in Washington and London that they are in essence happy with the so-called internal settlement being implemented now by Smith, head of the racist regime, and the puppet African figures who have joined him, for it does not impinge in any way on the interests of the imperialist monopolies. But in order to insure that this so-called settlement, which has been rejected by the UN Security Council as illegal and unacceptable, receives international recognition, Vance and Owen are trying to get the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front to associate itself with Smith's agreement on an internal settlement. With this aim, they are proposing a so-called conference of all interested parties, where representatives of the front would be present alongside Smith and his proteges. Implementation of this Anglo-U.S. plan according to the designs of its authors would allow the people of Zimbabwe, headed by the Patriotic Front, to end their armed struggle and would also legalize a neocolonialist regime. But the leaders of the Patriotic Front, Nkomo and Mugabe, at a meeting with Vance and Owen in Dar es Salaam, categorically rejected the idea of such a conference. Putting forward their principled position on the issue of Zimbabwe's independence, they stated that the racist military-punitive apparatus must be immediately eliminated before independence is provided. And the decisive role in the course of the whole of the period of transition to independence must belong not to Smith and his apprentices but to the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front, which has been recognized in the United Nations as the sole legitimate representative of the African population of Rhodesia. The patriots of Zimbabwe do not intend to lay down their arms until the racist regime is destroyed and the people's right to self-determination is put into effect.

Nkomo on New Army

LD171324Y Moscow TASS in English 1118 GMT 17 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Lusaka, April 17, TASS--A decisive role in the whole period of Rhodesia's transition to independence must be played by the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front, the sole legitimate representative of the country's African population, said J. Nkomo, one of the leaders of the Patriotic Front.

Addressing a mass meeting here, he set forth the front's principled stand at the talks on a settlement in Rhodesia with U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance and British Foreign Secretary David Owen, which were held in Dar es Salaam, the capital of Tanzania.

J. Nkomo strongly criticises the attempts of the United States and Britain to wrest concessions from the patriotic froces and impose on them a neocolonialist settlement of the Rhodesian problem. An indispensable condition for ensuring genuine independence of the Zimbabwe people must also be immediate liquidation of the racialist military-punitive machinery and creation of a new army under the control of the front.

The Zimbabwe patriots will not cease their armed struggle against the unlawful Smith regime until power in the country is taken over by genuine representatives of the African majority. The Zimbabwe people, he stressed, gives full support for the Patriotic Front fighting for a just settlement of the Rhodesian problem, which meets the vital interests of the country's mass of the people.

LONDON PAPER QUOTED ON MERCENARIES TO RHODESIA

LD142300Y Moscow TASS in English 2250 GMT 14 Apr 78 LD

[Text] London, April 14, TASS--The London international Heathrow airport is being turned into a transshipping point for mercenaries going to Rhodesia. As was reported by the British newspaper EVENING STANDARD today, the mercenaries recruited in the United States and West European countries, including in Britain, come through customs in Heathrow unhindered, with their luggage being rifles, big quantities of cartridges and other military equipment.

"We were told not to talk too much, and when answered [as received] to say that we are going for a hunting trip, all is quite secret", said one of the mercenaries, who was unwilling to disclose his name. Despite protests of the international public, the British authorities take no measures to ban recruitment of mercenaries from among former British servicemen. Declaring in word in support of the striving of the African population of Rhodesia to govern the country, Western powers at the same time connive at the Rhodesian racists who are aided by mercenaries in the desire to keep in power, cost [what] it may.

VANCE VISIT ENDS; PRETORIA REPRESSES NAMIBIAN PATRIOTS

LD171310Y Moscow TASS in English 1111 GMT 17 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Maputo, April 17 TASS--Talks on the problem of Namibia, which were held in Pretoria between U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, British Foreign Secretary David Owen and Foreign Minister of the racialist South African regime Botha, have ended. Upon completion of the meeting, the U.S. secretary of state told a press-conference that the South African Republic had rejected proposals on a settlement in Namibia and the granting of independence to that territory.

Continuing the occupation of Namibia, the Pretoria regime is pursuing a policy of terror and mass repressions against the patriots, who are waging a just struggle for liberation from the racialist-colonialist yoke. The South-West Africa People's Organization, the sole legitimate and genuine representative of the Namibian people demands immediate withdrawal of the South African occupation Army, release of all political prisoners, recognition and respect of the country's territorial integrity and the holding of free and democratic elections in Namibia under U.N. control. It is only on these conditions that a genuine settlement of the Namibian problem is possible in the interests of the African majority.

SWAPO SAYS CHILEAN MERCENARIES USED IN NAMIBIA

LD141326Y Moscow TASS in English 1259 GMT 14 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Luanda, April 14 TASS--The Pretoria racist authorities make wide use of foreign mercenaries in suppressing the African population. They put especially great value on soldiers of fortune from Chile.

Over a thousand such hired killers are involved in punitive operations against the Namibian people, the South-West African People's Organization (SWAPO) reports. Chilean troops are stationed at the Ondangua military base near the Angolan frontier. Therefrom they make barbarous attacks on peaceful villages and take part in combat operations against SWAPO patriots and also in provocations against the People's Republic of Angola. The African press says that many of the Chilean soldiers were trained at U.S. military bases in the Panama Canal Zone.

Pretoria pays for soldiers with arms supplies. Thus the Chilean junta has reportedly begun receiving personnel carriers and ammunition from South Africa.

PEOPLE RESOLVED TO LIBERATE WALVIS BAY, NUJOMA SAYS

LD151424Y Moscow TASS in English 1136 GMT 15 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Dar es Salaam, April 15 TASS--The people of Namibia is resolved to liberate the whole of the country's territory including the strategically important Walvis Bay port, said President of the South-West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO) Sam Nujoma. He criticized the proposal of the five Western powers, members of the U.N. Security Council, that the question of the destiny of the port be adjourned till talks open between the South African Republic and the future government of independent Namibia.

Sam Nujoma stressed that his organization is ready to carry on the armed struggle for Namibia's freedom and independence.

NIGERIAN OPPOSES PRETORIA'S NUCLEAR PREPARATIONS

LD180904Y Moscow TASS in English 0811 GMT 18 Apr 78 LD

[Text] New York, April 18, TASS--The chairman of the U.N. Special Anti-apartheid Committee and permanent representative of Nigeria at U.N., Leslie Harriman, persistently called for an end to the nuclear preparations of the racialist regime of the Republic of South Africa, supported by the forces of international imperialism.

According to dispatches coming in, he said, speaking at a meeting of the committee, the Republic of South Africa continues intense preparations for nuclear weapons tests in the Kalahari Desert.

Leslie Harriman emphasised that the attempts by Pretoria's racialist authorities to produce their own nuclear weapons had been sharply condemned by the international community. The question of nuclear preparations of the Republic of South Africa, he remarked, should be urgently considered in the United Nations Security Council and General Assembly.

In connection with South Africa's nuclear preparations, which are a threat to peace and international security, Leslie Harriman said, the urgent necessity has arisen of applying strict economic sanctions against the Pretoria regime, and, above all, to bring about a ban on foreign capital investments in the militaristic economy of the Republic of South Africa.

AFP: ANGOLA'S NETO APPEARS ON SOVIET TV 17 APRIL

AW1801110Y Hong Kong AFP in English 0053 GMT 18 Apr 78 OW

[Text] Moscow, April 18 (AFP)--President Agostinho Neto of Angola, rumoured here and in the West to be seriously ill, appeared in good health in a Soviet television report last night on his stay in the Crimea. The programme showed him visiting a youth camp in the Yalta region.

A government statement issued in Luanda last month said Mr. Neto was resting in the Soviet Union, but this was never confirmed here, giving rise to rumours about his health.

A British newspaper reported at the weekend that President Neto was receiving treatment for leukemia, but this was denied yesterday by the Angola Embassy in Lisbon.

ANGOLAN STATEMENT ON NEW PROVOCATIONS BY ZAIRE REPORTED

LD1404187 Moscow TASS in English 1334 GMT 14 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Luanda, April 14 TASS--The Defence Ministry of the People's Republic of Angola reported today about fresh provocations of the Zaire Air Force. Planes of the Zaire Air Force twice invaded the air space of the Angolan Province of Cabinda in the area of the populated localities of Nkutu, Beira Nova and Panga-Mongo on April 9 and 10.

SOUTHEAST ASIA

SOVIET-AUSTRALIAN TRADE TALKS END IN CANBERRA

LD170959Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 12 Apr 78 Morning Edition p 3 LD

[Text] Canberra, 11 April (TASS)--The fourth session of the Soviet-Australian Mixed Trade Commission has ended. The Soviet delegation led by N.N. Smelyakov, USSR deputy foreign trade minister, discussed a broad range of questions on economic cooperation with the Australian side. The commission, a communique published here notes, examined in particular the prospects for Soviet-Australian trade and its development. The sides stressed the commission's role in strengthening mutually advantageous cooperation between the USSR and Australia and noted with satisfaction the high level of trade relations between the two countries. The next session of the commission will be held in Moscow in 1980.

U.S. ARMS SUPPLIES INDICATE MILITARIZATION OF ASEAN

LD122244Y Moscow TASS in English 2219 GMT 12 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Bangkok, April 12, TASS--The Thailand Defense Ministry reported that the Thailand Air Forces have placed orders for U.S.-produced fighter-bombers, F-5.

The Singapore Air Force will start receiving the aircraft next year. The U.S. administration has announced its decision to supply the F-5 fighter-bombers to the Indonesian Armed Forces as well. Thus, writes the Hong Kong magazine FAR EASTERN ECONOMIC REVIEW, starting next year, the armed forces of ASEAN countries will be equipped with this fighter-bomber. This, stresses the magazine, will provide a major step to the unification of all the equipment of the armed forces of Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, Singapore and the Philippines.

Progressive public is seriously concerned that under cover of "regional cooperation in the field of economy and culture" a military block is being knocked together full speed ahead, in which the aggressive circles of the West are interested. This is borne out by the intensive militarisation and undisguised striving for the creation of a common military machine of the ASEAN countries.

BRIEFS

SOVIET SEA AID--The motorship Gavril Derzhavin commanded by Captian Piskun was enroute to Long Beach from Nakhodka on 4 April with cargo. At 1830 it intercepted a radio message asking for aid from the motorship (Ravenna), which is registered in Singapore and belongs to the FRG and was en route to Hiroshima from San Francisco. After 7 hours, the two vessels made contact in the Pacific Ocean area and the physician from the Gavril Derzhavin rendered medical aid to a seaman who fell into the hold and injured his head. [Vladivostok Maritime Service in Russian to the Pacific Far East 0700 GMT 14 Apr 78 OW]

INDOCHINA

NHAN DAN HITS CAMBODIAN LEADER'S 'SLANDEROUS' REMARKS

LD152000Y Moscow TASS in English 1811 GMT 15 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Hanoi, April 15, TASS--"The Kampuchean side continues renouncing friendship and talks" is the headline under which the newspaper NHAN DAN today published a commentary on the interview which Pol Pot, the prime minister of Kampuchea, gave to a correspondent of the news agency of that country. The interview, the NHAN DAN commentary says, reiterates slander with regard to Vietnam, the army and the people of our country, slander to which the Kampuchean side has long been resorting to. In the interview an attempt is being made to claim that black is white in order to do damage to the friendship between the peoples of the two countries. The interview contains the false assertion that Vietnam allegedly continues aggressive actions against Kampuchea at a strength of [word indistinct] divisions. Two Vietnamese documents: "The Truth About the Question of So-called 'Indochinese Federation'" and "The Truth About the Vietnamese-Kampuchean Border Problem"--vividly demonstrate the good will and just stand of the SRV Government and our people, NHAN DAN writes. These documents attracted the attention of the world public.

Accusing Vietnam of aggression, the Kampuchean side deliberately deceives the world public in an attempt to justify its military actions to seize Vietnam's territory. At the same time Kampuchea is preparing for new ventures. Facts are that from the beginning of April up to the present, the Kampuchean side has more than once sent its troops to deliver strikes and commit cruel crimes against our people in many areas of Vietnam. That gave rise to a just counter-action by our armed forces.

Up to now the commentary goes on, the Kampuchean side has shown no readiness to respond to the SRV proposals which were supported by the world public at large. Prime Minister Pol Pot's interview dated April 12 is in point of fact another renunciation of Vietnam's proposal, renunciation of talks. If the Kampuchean side really wants to solve the question of relations between the two countries, as it states it does, it must take its seat at the table of negotiations. We hold that this is the most effective step towards a quick solution to the question of relations between the two countries. This is being required by the peoples of the two countries and by the world public, the NHAN DAN emphasises in conclusion.

VNA: CAMBODIA AVOIDS TALKS BY CLAIMING SRV ATTACKS

LD141758Y Moscow TASS in English 1733 GMT 14 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Hanoi, April 14, TASS--The VNA news service reported today that in the course of the past two weeks units and detachments of the Kampuchean army repeatedly made inroads into the territory of Vietnam. They seized several border areas of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam in the provinces of Chong Be and Tay Ninh, whence they launched daily raids on the surrounding villages. The Armed Forces of Vietnam, coordinating their actions with the local population, drove the intruders out of the Hoa Loi Quan Tom and Chanh Rach districts, inflicted substantial losses upon them.

The agency notes that the Kampuchean leadership, in an attempt to cover up its armed provocations, slanderously accused Vietnam of "invading" several provinces of Kampuchea. It is perfectly obvious, the agency stresses, that such fabrications are being used as another pretext for refusing to start negotiations with Vietnam, for preparing new military ventures against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. The VNA news service reaffirms Vietnam's stand, namely to hold as quickly as possible Vietnamese-Kampuchean negotiations with a view to settling the disputed questions peacefully.

JAPAN'S ENVOY DELIVERS LETTER FOR BREZHNEV AT FISH TALKS

OW151301Y Tokyo KYODO in English 1246 GMT 15 Apr 78 OW

[Text] Moscow, April 15, KYODO--Japanese Agriculture-Forestry Minister Ichiro Nakagawa met with Fisheries Minister Aleksandr A. Ishkov in Moscow Saturday to narrow differences in a proposed agreement on fishery cooperation.

Japan is seeking an increased salmon fishing quota and wider fishing areas.

During Saturday's meeting Nakagawa handed Prime Minister Takeo Fukuda's personal letter addressed to President Leonid Brezhnev to Ishkov.

New Japanese Proposal

OW171229Y Tokyo KYODO in English 1223 GMT 17 Apr 78 OW

[Text] Tokyo, April 17, KYODO--Agriculture-Forestry Minister Ichiro Nakagawa, now in Moscow, has been instructed to make a new proposal to the Soviet Union regarding the fishery negotiations under way there, chief Cabinet Secretary Shintaro Abe said Monday.

Abe, acting for Nakagawa in his absence, declined to elaborate, but said Japan could not accept the Soviet proposals made last week on salmon catch quota and restricted fishing zone.

Nakagawa began another round of talks with Soviet Fisheries Minister A. A. Ishkov at 6 p.m. (Monday noon Moscow time).

Talks Remain Deadlocked

OW171257Y Tokyo KYODO in English 1240 GMT 17 Apr 78 OW

[Excerpt] Moscow, April 17, KYODO--Japanese Agriculture-Forestry Minister Ichiro Nakagawa and Soviet Fisheries Minister A. A. Ishkov failed to achieve a breakthrough in the deadlocked negotiations for conclusion of a new bilateral fishery agreement during their sixth round of talks here Monday.

In the conference lasting for one and a half hours from noon, Nakagawa made a new proposal to revise the length of the fishing season and the waters to be covered by the planned fishery accord.

The proposal was designed to increase Japan's catch quotas for pink salmon in the northwestern Pacific.

Nakagawa Extends Visit

OW180420Y Tokyo KYODO in English 0354 GMT 18 Apr 78 OW

[Excerpt] Tokyo, April 18, KYODO--Agriculture-Forestry Minister Ichiro Nakagawa will extend his stay in Moscow till Sunday to continue fishery negotiations with the Soviet Union, chief Cabinet Secretary Shintaro Abe told newsmen Tuesday.

Partial Agreement Reached

OW181239Y Tokyo KYODO in English 1233 GMT 18 Apr 78 OW

[Text] Moscow, April 18, KYODO--Japan Tuesday decided to accept a Soviet proposal that the Japanese salmon catch quota in the northwestern Pacific for 1978 be set at 42,500 metric tons.

The new Russian compromise proposal was made at the seventh meeting here between Japanese Agriculture-Forestry Minister Ichiro Nakagawa and Soviet Fisheries Minister A. A. Ishkov.

While Japan decided to accept the catch quota proposal, agreement failed to be reached on Japan's request for expansion of the Soviet-narrowed salmon fishing areas.

The two ministers are expected to meet again Wednesday for further discussions on the open seas allowed for Japanese salmon fishing.

NEWSPAPER POLL REVEALS DIET'S RETICENCE TO PRC TREATY

OW161245Y Moscow in Japanese to Japan 0830 GMT 14 Apr 78 OW

[Correspondent Vladimir Tsvetov dispatch from Tokyo]

[Text] An ASAHI SHIMBUN opinion poll of LDP Diet members on the proposed Japan-China peace and friendship treaty shows that 167 conservative Diet members, or the majority of those who replied, feel that Japan should not rush into concluding the treaty with China. Of the 339 Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] Diet members polled, only 49 favor retaining the spirit of the 1972 Japan-China joint statement in the proposed treaty. In other words, they want the antihegemony clause, as interpreted by Peking, to be incorporated in the treaty.

Why is it that the majority of the LDP Diet members have become so apprehensive about the treaty? In his reply to the ASAHI SHIMBUN questionnaire, dietman Uechi Noda said: The people feel uneasy because they do not know who will benefit from the treaty and how it will affect Japan's relations with the Soviet Union.

As a matter of fact, the treaty only benefits the Peking leadership which aims at creating an international united front against the Soviet Union. Incorporation of the antihegemony clause in the Japan-China treaty is intended to legalize Japan's participation in such a front. It would substantiate Teng Hsiao-ping statements during his meeting with an LDP delegation in 1973. Teng said that Japan and China should prepare jointly for rivalry with the north.

Naturally, the Japanese Government will decide whether it should conclude the treaty under Peking's conditions or not. However, should China and Japan, in conformity with the treaty, take action against a third party, that third party should certainly have the right to retaliate.

Therefore, the response to the ASAHI SHIMBUN questionnaire by Kaneshichi Masuda and Kingo Machimura are absolutely logical. Musuda said: Unless the treaty specifically states that opposition to hegemony does not signify joint actions, the treaty should not be signed. Machimura said; As long as China regards the antihegemony clause as the basis of an anti-Soviet alliance, Japan should not sign the treaty.

Peking, which is trying to impose the hegemony clause on Japan, is plotting to legalize its control over Japan. As everyone knows, Peking perceives Southeast Asia as the target of its territorial expansion. Should the treaty contain an antihegemony clause, Peking could charge Japan with violation of the treaty for (?promoting) economic exchanges with Southeast Asia. Dietman Shigeru Kasuya, in his reply to the ASAHI SHIMBUN questionnaire, said: The treaty should not be concluded at Peking's insistence. China may call for opposition to economic hegemony some day. Thus, Kasuya's reply considers this possibility.

The experience of Soviet-Japanese relations shows that the Soviet Union has no hegemonist aims against Japan. The Soviet Union has not changed its policy of developing reciprocal, friendly relations with Japan. This was confirmed by the Soviet draft treaty on neighborliness and cooperation with Japan. The LDP Diet members obviously realize this as indicated by their replies to the ASAHI SHIMBUN questionnaire. Yoshinari Norota said: I agree to signing the treaty but only if the conclusion of the Japan-Soviet treaty of neighborliness and cooperation and the delation of the hegemony clause are prerequisites.

JAPANESE TOWN ASSEMBLY REBUFFS PRC OVER VISA REFUSAL

LD171348Y Moscow TASS in English 1248 GMT 17 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Tokyo, April 17, TASS--The legislative assembly of the Japanese town of Gifu has declined the Chinese side's invitation to send a delegation to the People's Republic of China. The decision was taken, AKAHATA reports, in protest against the Chinese authorities' refusal to issue visa to I. Nomura, one of the members of the delegation, deputy from the Communist Party of Japan. The assembly qualified this refusal as China's "gross interference into the internal affairs of Japan and a manifestation of Chinese hegemonism in practice."

PROVISIONS OF USSR-JAPAN COOPERATION TREATY REVIEWED

OW151205Y Moscow in Japanese to Japan 0830 GMT 13 Apr 78 OW

[Krasin commentary]

[Text] The Soviet Union made public on 23 February a draft treaty of goodneighborliness and cooperation with Japan. This marked a major event in the relations between the USSR and Japan. After some forces in Japan made a futile effort to prevent deliberations on the draft, newspapers now publish editorials urging the government to officially consider the draft treaty.

Some people seriously consider the proposed treaty but others try to distort the intention of the Soviet initiative and persistently oppose the Soviet-proposed treaty. Therefore, it is useful to again discuss the basic proposition of the Soviet Union.

In its preamble, the proposed treaty states: The USSR and Japan seek the consolidation of peace and security in the Far East, the Pacific region and throughout the world. The two sides express their resolve to create a firm and long-term foundation for the development of all-round cooperation between them, above all, in the political sphere, and also in economics, science, technology and culture.

It should be noted that those who oppose the Soviet proposal cannot openly challenge the peace-loving intention of the Soviet proposal but they may try to bypass it. The attack is primarily directed against Articles 3, 4 and 5 of the draft treaty. What are these articles? Article 3 states: The USSR and Japan will not allow the use of their territories for any actions which could prejudice the security of the other party.

The meaning of this article is clear and leaves no room for any other interpretation. This notwithstanding, some say that the Soviet Union is trying to disrupt the Japan-U.S. security treaty and turn Japan into its satellite on the strength of this article. However, the same clause is contained in treaties and agreements which the Soviet Union concluded with other countries, for example, the Soviet-Turkish declaration on neighborly relations of 17 April 1972.

Article 4 states that the two sides will refrain from any act which encourages a third party to take aggressive actions against either of them. This article contains the criteria for mutual relations which is expected of two countries which maintain relations in the spirit of neighborliness. Therefore, it is strange to hear people say that this article reflects the Soviet intention to obstruct proposed Japan-China peace and friendship treaty. If the Japan-China treaty is not intended to oppose the Soviet Union, one need not worry about Article 4 at all.

Apparently, critics of Article 4 know very well the target of the hegemony clause in the Japan-China treaty. Of course, the anti-Soviet clause which Peking is trying to impose on Japan is not compatible with Japan's neighborly relations with the Soviet Union.

If one reads Article 5 carefully, he will discover that the article contains nothing unusual. Similar clauses can be found in many treaties and agreements. The article calls for the maintenance and widening of regular contacts and consultations on important international issues of mutual interest through meetings and exchanges between leading statesmen and diplomatic channels. This is included in the 1972 Soviet-U.S. agreement on basic political relations, the 1971 Soviet-French principle of cooperation, the Soviet-Canadian and Soviet-Italian protocols on consultations, as well as in many other treaties and agreements concluded between the Soviet Union and capitalist countries.

A number of NATO member countries have concluded treaties containing similar clauses with the Soviet Union. However, no one would label these countries as satellites of the Soviet Union but the Japanese critics of the Soviet-proposed draft treaty on neighborliness and cooperation are actually saying this. But this is only an argument made by those who oppose the proposed treaty. It is clear to any objective person that this argument is totally groundless.

The design behind this argument is to mislead Japan's public opinion and prevent deliberations on the new Soviet initiative. These deliberations must occur for the sake of both the Soviet and the Japanese peoples.

The proposed Soviet-Japanese treaty of neighborliness and cooperation demonstrates that the Soviet Union is faithful to its policy of developing relations of friendship, cooperation and mutual understanding with Japan.

SCHEEL ARRIVES IN JAPAN AMID DIVISION OVER TRADE MEASURES

LD171316Y Moscow TASS in English 1033 GMT 17 Apr 78 LD

["Sharp Contradictions"--TASS headline]

[Text] Tokyo, April 17, TASS--The president of the FRG, Walter Scheel, arrived in Japan for an official visit. He is accompanied by the foreign minister of the FRG, Hans-Dietrich Genscher. The latter is expected to hold an extensive exchange of views with many members of the Japanese Government on pressing political issues and on commercial-economic relations between the FRG and Japan.

The negotiations will proceed against the background of acute trade rivalry between the two countries, and also between Japan and the Common Market as a whole. As a result of the offensive of Japanese monopolies on the West European markets, the "inner nine" deficit in trade with Japan amounted to 5,200 million dollars in 1977. The FRG, just as the other Common Market countries, demands that Tokyo should take concrete steps to facilitate the access of its goods to the Japanese market. At the same time, intensifying their offensive in the Common Market zone, the Japanese producers are shouldering aside the West German rivals. Substantial losses as a result of this are incurred specifically, by the West German firms producing bearings, FRG automobile and ship building companies. In these conditions the FRG manufacturers persistently demand from their government and the EEC agencies effective measures to safeguard their traditional markets from the influx of Japanese manufactured goods. They are irritated by the fact that Japan, verbally recognizing the need of solving this problem, does not hasten, however, to take effective steps in this direction. At the same time as believed here during their talks the sides will discuss questions connected with the dropping of the international exchange rate of the American dollar. It was noted repeatedly in the business circles of the FRG and Japan that the American manoeuvres around the dollar's exchange rate lower the competitiveness of the West German and Japanese goods in the U.S. market and in the entire dollar zone.

PRAVDA REPORTS MPR GOVERNMENT NOTE TO PRC

LD171519Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Apr 78 p 5 LD

[TASS report: "Mongolian Government Note"]

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 13 April--As reported by MONTSAME, a Mongolian Government note to the PRC Government was handed to the Chinese side in Ulaanbaatar and Peking on 12 April.

The Mongolian People's Republic Government, the note says, states the following to the PRC Government: Mongolia consistently advocates the normalization of relations with its neighboring state--the PRC. Guided by a sincere desire for the restoration of relations of neighborliness and cooperation, the Mongolian side has repeatedly made concrete proposals to the Chinese side aimed at settling bilateral questions.

However, the present state of Mongolian-Chinese relations remains extremely unsatisfactory. This cannot be attributed to a lack of good will on the Mongolian side or a lack of interest in the establishment and development of normal relations with China. On the contrary, Mongolia has always proceeded and proceeds from the premise that the restoration of neighborly bilateral relations accords fully with the vital interests of both peoples, and with the interests of the cause of peace and security in Asia and the Far East. This principled position has been repeatedly expounded in official statements by the Mongolian side.

Meanwhile, the readiness of the Mongolian side to normalize interstate relations is not encountering a positive response from the PRC side. Moreover, the Chinese side is doggedly pursuing a course of aggravating Chinese-Mongolian relations and interfering in Mongolia's internal affairs. It is considered in Mongolia that the demand for the withdrawal of Soviet military units from Mongolian territory, which was recently presented to the Soviet Union by the Chinese authorities, is another flagrant act of interference in Mongolia's internal affairs. Moreover, this demand was made without informing the Mongolian Government. This cannot be assessed as anything but an attempt to ignore Mongolia as an independent state.

It is well known that the Soviet military units are in Mongolia exclusively at the request of the Mongolian Government and in accordance with the Mongolian-Soviet Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance. The reason Soviet military units are stationed in Mongolia lies in the Chinese policy toward Mongolia. The PRC's leadership has repeatedly declared openly their intention to annex Mongolia to China. This intention has been accompanied by practical actions which have ultimately led to the present tense state of bilateral relations.

China's overt military preparations, which grow more intense every year, are a direct threat to Mongolia's security. In regions along Mongolia's state borders, the concentration of enormous numbers of Chinese troops, the building of military-strategic installations and the holding of military exercises continue, and various kinds of subversive sallies against Mongolia are organized.

Faced with this real threat, the Mongolian Government was forced to take appropriate steps to strengthen the country's defenses to insure its security. For these purposes Soviet military units were brought into Mongolia at the request of the Mongolian Government, and with the Mongolian People's Army, they insure the independence and territorial integrity of Mongolia. Thus the presence of Soviet military units in Mongolia was a measure forced upon us, dictated exclusively by a concern to insure Mongolia's security.

No one can dispute the fact that the decision to station Soviet military units in Mongolia is a purely internal matter for the sovereign Mongolian state, stemming from its inalienable right to defend its own freedom and independence.

The Mongolian Government believes that a threat to its sovereignty and independence exists even now, insofar as the Chinese authorities refuse to abandon their expansionist aspirations regarding Mongolia, and even continue to increase military preparations against Mongolia and its ally--the USSR. It is perfectly obvious that a discussion of Soviet troop withdrawals from Mongolia can only occur when the reason for their original presence is eliminated. If the Chinese leadership permanently renounces its policy of annexation toward Mongolia and embarks on the path of neighborliness and cooperation with Mongolia and the Soviet Union, the current need for Soviet military units in Mongolia will disappear. When and how soon this will happen depends on the Chinese side.

It is not inappropriate to observe that when normal relations were maintained between Mongolia and China in the fifties, Mongolia did not have Soviet military units on its territory, and even reduced its own armed forces to a minimum and abolished its border forces. The Mongolian Government confirms that Mongolia will continue to make efforts to normalize interstate relations with China in line with the principles of peaceful coexistence and in a spirit of neighborliness and mutual understanding. The Mongolian Government believes that if sobriety and a realistic approach are really displayed by the Chinese side, relations between Mongolia and the PRC can enter a normal phase.

LATIN AMERICA & CARIBBEAN

GUYANA'S FORBES BURNHAM ARRIVES IN MOSCOW FOR TALKS

Airport Welcome

LD171345Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0930 GMT 17 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Linden Forbes Sampson Burnham, prime minister of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana who is heading a government delegation, arrived in Moscow today on an official visit at the invitation of the Soviet Government.

Aleksey Kosygin, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and other officials welcomed the guest at the airport. Among those meeting him was Guyanaese Ambassador McDavid.

There was a guard of honor at the airport, and the state anthems of Guyana and the USSR were played.

Aleksey Nikolayevich Kosygin and Forbes Burnham heard a report by the head of the guard of honor and inspected the ranks of Soviet soldiers. The capital's streets and squares, along which the procession of cars passed accompanied by an honorary motorcycle escort, were decorated with the state flags of Guyana and the Soviet Union and posters of greeting.

Kosygin, Forbes Burnham Hold Talks

LD171829Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1630 GMT 17 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Talks were held in the Kremlin today between Kosygin, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and Forbes Burnham, leader of the People's National Congress Party and prime minister of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana, who is on an official visit in the Soviet Union.

During the talks, which passed in a businesslike and friendly atmosphere, issues of further developing bilateral relations in the political, economic and other spheres were discussed; in particular, the great importance of expanding the treaty basis of Soviet-Guyanese cooperation was stressed.

During the discussion of topical international problems of mutual interest, great attention was devoted primarily to issues of disarmament, issues of strengthening universal peace, and also to the development of international cooperation based on the principles of equality and justice. The positive contribution being made by Guyana to the anti-imperialist, anti-colonial struggle of the nonalined countries was noted. The position of the Soviet Union and Guyana, which resolutely oppose the maintenance of the remnants of colonial possessions, including those in the Caribbean basin, and support the acceleration of social progress for liberated peoples, was reaffirmed.

Kremlin Dinner Held

LD171748Y Moscow TASS in English 1741 GMT 17 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, April 17, TASS--Today the Government of the USSR gave a dinner in the Kremlin in honour of the Prime Minister of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana Linden Forbes Sampson Burnham, who is in the USSR on an official visit at the head of a government delegation.

For the Soviet side the dinner was attended by Prime Minister Aleksey Kosygin, Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko and other officials.

The two prime ministers exchanged speeches. The dinner passed in a friendly atmosphere.

GROMYKO GREETS CUBAN FOREIGN MINISTER ON ARRIVAL

LD181022Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1000 GMT 18 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Isodoro Malmierca Peoli, member of the Central Committee of the Cuban Communist Party and foreign minister of the Cuban Republic, arrived in Moscow today on an official visit at the invitation of the Soviet Government.

At Sheremetevo Airport Malmierca and entourage were met by Comrade Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of foreign affairs, and other officials.

TORRIJOS VIEWS U.S. SENATE AMENDMENTS TO CANAL TREATY

LD162030Y Moscow TASS in English 2020 GMT 16 Apr 78 LD

[Text] The Island of Contadora, April 16, TASS--"The U.S. Senate's amendments to the treaty on permanent neutrality of the Panama Canal are directed not only against Panama but also against all countries of Latin America, against the Charter of the United Nations Organisation, against the sacred principle of non-interference into internal affairs of sovereign countries," General Omar Torrijos, head of the Panama Government, said at a meeting with journalists. The meeting was held on Panama's Island of Contadora where all representatives of foreign press were invited to.

When he sent out the texts of amendments to all representatives of the U.N. member-countries, he stressed, many heads of state could not believe that the U.S. Senate had made such amendments. They believed we made an error in translation.

The vote will be taken in the U.S. Senate on the second treaty on April 18. Expecting this moment, General Omar Torrijos said, the Panama people are displaying calm and restraint since they know that their cause is right. Addressing the journalists, Torrijos said: "You may say to the whole world that we remain calm and confident. We know that our cause is a right one, the cause supported by the whole people of Panama, all the progressive forces on earth.

The meeting with journalists was held in a warm, unrestrained atmosphere. Present at the meeting were government ministers and General O. Torrijos' personal advisers.

GUYANA AMBASSADOR PRESENTS CREDENTIALS TO KUZNETSOV

LD171021Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Apr 78 p 4 LD

[Text] Elvin Bernard Francis McDavid, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana, presented his credentials to V.V. Kuznetsov in the Kremlin on 12 April.

Talks were held in a friendly atmosphere between V.V. Kuznetsov and E.B. McDavid after the presentation of credentials.

PRAVDA TEXT OF CPSU CENTRAL COMMITTEE MAY DAY SLOGANS

LD180827Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Apr 78 p 1 LD

[Apparent text of "CPSU Central Committee Slogans for 1 May 1978"]

[Text] 1. Long live 1 May--the day of working people's international solidarity in the struggle against imperialism and for peace, democracy and socialism!

2. Proletarians of all countries, unite!

3. Long live Marxism-Leninism--the mighty ideological weapon of the working people of all countries in the struggle against imperialism and for the victory of socialism and communism!

4. Long live the Leninist Communist Party of the Soviet Union--the leading and directing force of Soviet society!

Long live the great unbreakable unity of the party and the people!

5. May the name and cause of Vladimir Ilich Lenin--the creator and leader of the Communist Party and the world's first socialist state--live throughout the ages!

6. Honor and glory to the great Soviet people--the builder of communism and consistent fighter for peace throughout the world!

7. Long live the heroic working class of the land of the Soviets--the leading force in the building of communism!

8. Long live the glorious kolkhoz peasantry--active builder of communism!

9. Long live the Soivet people's intelligentsia--active builder of communism!

10. Long live the unbreakable alliance of the working class, the kolkhoz peasantry and the people's intelligentsia! May the sociopolitical and ideological unity of Soviet society strengthen!

11. Long live the fraternal friendship and unshakable unity of all the nations and nationalities of our socialist motherland!

12. Long live the Soviet Constitution--the fundamental law of the world's first socialist state of the whole people!

13. Long live the Soviets of people's deputies! May the participation of workers, peasants and the intelligentsia in the management of affairs of state and society broaden!

14. Long live socialist democracy, which insures genuine people's power and social justice!

15. Working people of the Soviet Union! Struggle for the implementation of the historic decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress and seek fully to realize the potentials of developed socialism!

16. Communists! Be in the vanguard of the nationwide struggle to fulfill the 25th CPSU Congress decisions and enhance production efficiency and work quality!

17. Soviet trade unions! Mount more extensively the socialist competition and the movement for a communist attitude toward labor!

Long live the Soviet trade unions--school of administration, school of management, school of communism!

18. Young men and women! Persistently master knowledge and foster high ideology-mindedness in yourselves! Learn to live, work and struggle in Leninist fashion, in communist fashion!

19. Long live the Lenin Komsomol--reliable assistant and combat reserve of the Communist Party, advanced detachment of the young builders of communism!

20. Long live Soviet women--ardent patriots and active builders of communism! Honor and glory to the mother who devotes the warmth of her heart to the rearing of children--worthy citizens of the socialist motherland!

21. Long live the valiant Armed Forces of the USSR--reliable guard of the Soviet people's peaceful labor and bulwark of world peace!

22. Working people of the Soviet Union! Struggle to fulfill and overfulfill the 1978 plan! Strive persistently for the highest labor productivity, production efficiency and work quality!

23. Glory to production's front-rank workers and innovators--standard-bearers of the socialist competition to enhance efficiency and work quality!

24. Working people in industry! Struggle to further develop and strengthen our motherland's industrial might! Commission production capacities more quickly and utilize them efficiently!

Broaden the road for new equipment, progressive technology and front-rank experience!

25. Working people in industry! Increase the production and improve the quality and range of consumer goods! Satisfy more fully the requirements of Soviet people!

26. Working people in construction! Commission new projects on schedule! Build well, economically and on a modern technical foundation!

27. Working people in transportation and communications! Improve in every way services to the national economy, make efficient use of transportation and satisfy more fully the requirements of Soviet people!

28. Working people of the Soviet Union! Actively implement the CPSU's agrarian policy!

Accelerate the tempo of agriculture's mechanization and chemicalization and of land reclamation! Persistently develop production specialization and concentration on the basis of inter-farm cooperation and agroindustrial integration!

29. Working people in agriculture! Struggle to raise the efficiency of agricultural production and the fertility of the land! Make better use of equipment, fertilizers and all material resources! Strive for the maximum return from each ruble of investment!

30. Kolkhoz members and sovkhoz workers! Mount more extensively the socialist competition to increase the production and sale to the state of farming and livestock-raising products! Strive for the exemplary performance of spring fieldwork! Actively struggle to obtain the highest harvests!

31. Working people in trade, public catering and the domestic and housing and municipal services spheres! Struggle for a high standard of services for Soviet people!

32. Working people of the Soviet Union! Strengthen labor discipline in every way! Seek to save raw materials, fuel, electric power, metal and other materials!

33. Working people of the Soviet Union! Sacredly cherish and augment socialist property! Make rational use of our motherland's natural riches!

34. Working people in the national economy! Persistently enhance your professional skill and master economic knowledge and modern methods of management and administration!

35. Specialists in the national economy! Rationalizers and inventors! Struggle actively for the acceleration of scientific and technical progress!

36. Soviet scientists! Raise the efficiency of scientific research, strengthen science's links with production!

Glory to Soviet science!

37. Personalities of literature and art, working people in culture! Bear aloft the banner of the party-mindedness and popular spirit of Soviet art, create works worthy of our great motherland!

38. Working people in public education! Educate the rising generation in the spirit of communism and of a conscientious attitude toward studies and labor! Improve the training of cadres for the national economy!

39. Working people in public health and physical culture! Improve medical services for the population and introduce physical culture more actively into the daily lives of Soviet people!

40. Revolution, war and labor veterans! Mentors of young people! Actively participate in rearing the young generation in the revolutionary, combat and labor traditions of the Soviet people!

41. Pioneers and schoolchildren! Love the Soviet motherland warmly, master knowledge and labor skills persistently! Prepare yourselves to become active fighters for the cause of Lenin, for communism!

42. Fraternal greetings to the communist and workers parties--stanch fighters against imperialism and for peace, democracy, national independence and socialism!

May the unity and cohesion of the communists of the entire world strengthen on the unshakable basis of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism!

43. Long live proletarian internationalism--tested and mighty weapon of the international working class!

44. Communists of Europe! Struggle to attain the goals advanced by the Berlin Conference of Communist and Workers Parties!

45. Fraternal greetings to the peoples of the socialist countries! May the world socialist system--the decisive force of the anti-imperialist struggle, stronghold of peace, democracy and social progress--develop and strengthen!

46. Long live the unity and cohesion of the communist and workers parties and the peoples of the socialist community countries!

47. Fraternal greetings to the working class of the capitalist countries--selfless fighter against monopoly exploitation and dominance, for the rights of the working people and for peace, democracy and socialism!

48. Fraternal greetings to the peoples who have attained liberation from the colonial yoke and who are waging a courageous struggle for the consolidation of national independence and for social progress!

49. Warm greetings to the peoples of Africa who are struggling against imperialism and racism, against all remnants of colonialism and for freedom and national independence!

Peoples of the world! Step up support for the struggle of the peoples of Zimbabwe, Namibia and South Africa for the complete liquidation of the racist regimes!

50. Warm greetings to the peoples of Latin America who are waging a courageous struggle against the oppression of the imperialist monopolies, against reaction and fascism and for the free and independent development of their countries!

51. May the mighty invincible alliance of the three main revolutionary forces of the present day--world socialism, the international proletatiat and the national liberation movement--strengthen!

52. Fraternal greetings to the courageous fighters for the people's freedom and for democracy and socialism who are languishing in jails and fascist torture chambers!

Freedom to the prisoners of imperialism and reaction!

53. Fraternal greetings to the working class and all working people and democrats of Chile, who are waging a courageous struggle against fascist reaction!

Peoples of the world! Strengthen solidarity with Chile's patriots!

Freedom to the prisoners of the fascist junta!

54. Peoples of the world! Redouble your efforts in the struggle for the complete liquidation of the consequences of the Israeli aggression, for the establishment of a just peace for all states and peoples of the Near East and against imperialist interference in the Arab countries' internal affairs!

May the friendship and cooperation between the peoples of the Soviet Union and the Arab countries strengthen and develop!

55. Peoples of the European countries! Seek persistently the full implementation of the all-European conference's final act, and the transformation of Europe into a continent of peace, security, cooperation and social progress!

56. Peoples of the Asian countries! Struggle for the consolidation of peace, for cooperation and good-neighborly relations and for insuring security in Asia!

57. Peoples of the world! Struggle for the deepening of the relaxation of international tension and for its extension to all continents! Expose the intrigues of the forces of aggression, revanchism and reaction--the enemies of peace and the people's security!

58. Peoples of the world! Seek to insure that the nonuse of force becomes a law in international relations and that nuclear weapons are banned for all time! Step up the struggle to end the arms race and for general and complete disarmament!

59. Peoples of the world! Resolutely oppose production of the neutron bomb! The development and manufacture of new types of mass-destruction weapons must be prohibited!

60. Long live the peace-loving Leninist foreign policy of the Soviet Union!

May the program elaborated by the 25th CPSU Congress of further struggle for peace and international cooperation and for the freedom and independence of the peoples be implemented in full!

61. Long live our great motherland--the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics!

62. Under the banner of Marxism-Leninism, under the leadership of the Communist Party--forward to new victories in the building of communism!

[signed] CPSU Central Committee.

UZBEK PARTY CC PLENUM APPROVES DRAFT CONSTITUTION

LD1718427 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1445 GMT 17 Apr 78 LD

[Text] A plenum of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Uzbekistan was held in Tashkent today. The question of the republic's draft constitution was examined. A report was read by Comrade Rashidov, chairman of the constitutional committee, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Uzbekistan. The plenum in the main approved the draft constitution of the republic submitted to the commission, with the addenda, clarifications and amendments made according to the results of nationwide discussion. The draft has been submitted for examination at an extraordinary session of the Uzbek Supreme Soviet.

CONFERENCE OF LIGHT INDUSTRY WORKERS OPENS IN MOSCOW

LD171318Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1130 GMT 17 Apr 78 LD

[Text] An all-union conference of workers in light industry is in progress in Moscow. Under discussion are the further improvement in production efficiency and quality of work undertaken by the branch following the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee December Plenum and the instructions of Leonid Ilich Brezhnev during his visit to Siberia and the Far East.

In the report by USSR Minister of Light Industry Comrade Tarasov, it was noted that collectives at front-ranking enterprises had carried out great work in increasing production of goods in mass demand, and in improving the quality of production. The branch has, nevertheless, quite a number of unsolved problems. Over 200 enterprises did not fulfill last year's plan for increasing labor productivity. At a number of clothing factories, clothes which do not meet the growing demands of customers are still being produced. There has been a lowering of production capacities in the footwear industry. Participants in the all-union conference will draw up specific measures for removing these and other deficiencies.

Taking part in the work of the conference is Comrade Kulakov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the party Central Committee.

BRIEFS

MARCH PLAN FULFILLMENT--The country's industry has fulfilled the March plan for marketing of output by 102 percent. All industries except for the Ministry of Meat and Dairy Industry coped with their tasks. Compared with March last year, the volume of production in industry increased by 5 percent, which is higher than the level envisaged by the annual plan. The top place for rate of growth is held by the Ministry of Instrument Making, Automation Equipment and Control Systems. [Text] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 11 Apr 78 LD]

NEW SALARY PAYMENT CONDITIONS--New salary and bonus payment conditions, introduced for kolkhoz specialists in Kievskaya Oblast, were discussed at a 2-day all-union conference that ended in Kiev on 12 April. The old practice of fixing monthly salaries for jobs has been discontinued. Instead, the salary rates are now being determined by the overall income of the farm. The assessing standard is based on farm income per 100 hectares of qualitatively homogenous arable lands. This method increases the interest in the final results, stimulates farm managers and specialists to work better and make more thrifty use of land. Special coefficients have been worked out making it possible to compare data concerning land usage in various regions. The conference was attended by scientists, leaders of a number of oblast and rayon administrations for agriculture and kolkhozes, responsible CPSU and Ukrainian CP Central Committee workers, and functionaries from the Ukrainian Council of Ministers and all-union and republic-level ministries and departments. [Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 0500 GMT 13 Apr 78 AU]

GOLD MINING OFFICIAL--Lobov, chief engineer of Soyuzzoloto, and Dragomiretskiy, chief engineer of the Severovostokzoloto Association, have visited Susumanskiy Rayon for 2 days. They held conferences at the Susuman and Berelekh mining and concentrating combines, which were attended by chiefs of departments and chief engineers of placer mines. Preparations for the washing season and safety measures were discussed. Lobov and Dragomiretskiy visited Bolshevik, Frunze, Eksperimentalnyy and Maldyak placer mines. [Magadan Domestic Service in Russian 0745 GMT 6 Apr 78 OW]

RADIO REPORTS AGRICULTURAL PROGRESS FOR 16-17 APR

LD180640 [Editorial Report LD] Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 0700 GMT on 16 April reports that Kostromskaya Oblast has begun sowing of early grain crops; more than 400 integrated detachments and links will be engaged in the sowing. Spring fieldwork has also begun in Ryazanskaya Oblast. Moisture has been retained there on 400,000 hectares.

At 1530 GMT the radio reports that in Kalmytskaya ASSR, farmers have sown all early grain crops on an area of almost 250,000 hectares, much earlier than last year.

At 0500 GMT on 17 April, the radio reports that all oblasts of Kazakhstan have engaged in spring fieldwork. On an area of over 30 million hectares, fieldwork is in progress. Mechanizers of southern oblasts have, up to date, completed sowing of early grain crops and sugar beets. Sowing of corn and cotton is also being completed. In northern oblasts retention of moisture is being carried out on fields. Virgin Lands sovkhozes are starting sowing of perennial grasses. In Moldavia, sowing of intertilled crops has begun. Soil for sowing of sunflower seeds has been well prepared. In the south of the republic, corn is being sown. This crop will occupy almost 400,000 hectares. Farmers of Tambovskaya Oblast in the Central Chernozem Zone have started spring fieldwork. Moisture retention is being carried out on the fields. Leading farms are starting sowing, and have set themselves the task of completing it within 100 working hours. In the south Black Sea region, the sowing of early grain crops has been completed. Sowing of sugar beets is in progress in northern regions. In the south, mechanizers are preparing the soil for corn. In Chechen-Ingushskaya ASSR sowing of corn has been completed on half of the area designated for it. This year it is planned to significantly increase cultivation by means of an increase in the harvest yield of fields. Front-ranking farms are competing to obtain up to 60 quintals per hectare, which is almost double the plan.

At 1100 GMT the radio reports that in the RSFSR NonChernozem Zone, Tulskaya Oblast's land cultivators have begun mass harrowing of winter crops and perennial grasses. Kolkhozes and sovkhozes are to retain moisture on an area of 1.5 million hectares. Harrowing of winter fallow has also begun in Mordovia. More than 500 complexes will work here. Spring fieldwork has begun in the Omskaya Oblast, following in the footsteps of the Ipatovo expertise. Specialists opine that this organization of labor will make it possible to complete the spring fieldwork twice as fast. In Kirgizia: After southern rayons, corn sowing has begun in the Chu Valley. Many brigades get as much as 100 quintals of grain per hectare, and more than 500 quintals of bulk plant waste [zelenaya massa]. Aleksandr Ruvinskiy reports that sugar beet sowing has been completed in the Kuban area. North Caucasus is one of the main producers of sugar beets, not only in the RSFSR but also in the USSR as a whole. It is here that one-fourth of the whole raw material for the sugar industry of the RSFSR is purchased; efficiency of local production is 1.5 times higher than the national average. Sugar beet sowing has been completed not only in the Kuban area--where most of it is sown--but also in the majority of the autonomous republics of North Caucasus.

At 1130 GMT the radio reports that mass potato planting has started in Belorussia. The republic's potato field, which is one of the largest in the country, occupies almost 500,000 hectares. All farms have gone over to mass sowing by strains; preference is being given to the (Temp), (Start) and (Kandidat) strains. Agricultural workers in many rayons have resolved to reap 250-300 quintals per hectare of potato tubers.

At 1430 GMT merited Agronomist Babaznyy reports that winter breadgrain will make up more than one-third of the USSR's total grain harvest. The best farms are applying fertilizer first from the air, and later on the ground. This two-phase method increases yield by 8-10 quintals per hectare--twice as much as when fertilizer is put down only once in early spring.

In the north, where snow is still lying, measures are being taken to free the winter crop area from it more quickly. The best winter crops are being treated with (Tur) to prevent flattening and increase resistant to disease and drought. This increases the harvest by 3-4 quintals per hectare. Many farms, to increase grain production, will harvest for grain the winter crops sown for fodder.

At 1800 GMT the radio reports that Stavropolskiy Kray farmers are completing the sugar beet sowing; two-thirds of the area allocated has been sown. Sugar beets are to occupy over 44,000 hectares in the kray this year.

PRAVDA, SELSKAYA ZHIZN VIEW SPRING SOWING PROGRESS

Pazhitnev in PRAVDA

LD171233Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Apr 78 p 4 LD

[A. Pazhitnev agricultural review: "In the Fields--The Rumble of Machines"]

[Text] The lives of the farmers are bound up with important cares these spring days. Sowing is getting underway on an increasingly broad scale on kolkhozes and sovkhozes. Spring crops have already been sown on many millions of hectares on the country's farms. A large proportion of this area is occupied by grain and pulse crops. The sowing frontier now runs along a line linking rayons of Lithuania, Latvia, Belorussia, and Volgogradskaya, Astrakhanskaya, Belgorodskaya and Voronezhskaya oblasts.

The grain growers have taken as a guide to action the advice and wishes that Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, expressed at conferences and in conversations with party and economic activists in Siberia and the Far East. This advice and these wishes are directing the rural workers toward carrying out the sowing in a short time and laying a reliable foundation for the next harvest. The machine operators are fully determined to honorably cope with the party's tasks in the third year of the 5-year plan.

The farmers of the Ukraine are laboring in shock fashion in the April fields. The collective of the team headed by twice Hero of Socialist Labor A. Gitalov on the Kirovograd Kolkhoz, named after the 20th party congress, took only 30 hours to sow early spring crops on the areas allocated for these crops. The rural workers of Odesskaya, Zakarpatskaya, and a number of other oblasts have completed the sowing of early cereals. In the Ukraine as a whole, 4.2 million hectares have been sown to spring crops, which is one-fifth of the area allocated to these crops.

More and more farms in the RSFSR are beginning sowing work. Kolkhozes and sovkhozes in 16 oblasts, krays and autonomous republics are carrying out sowing work.

The tempo of fieldwork on beet plantations is quickening. Seed drills are at work on kolkhozes and sovkhozes in the North Caucasus, Georgia, Moldavia, Kirgizia, Kazakhstan and the Ukraine.

It is a busy time for the cotton growers. Tashkentskaya Oblast farmers have completed cotton sowing 2 days earlier than last year. [paragraph continues]

In Uzbekistan, this very important industrial crop has already been sown on more than two-thirds of the plantation area. Some 90 percent of the cotton has been sown in Tadzhikistan and 96 percent in Azerbaijan.

Fodder production workers have much work in the spring fields. More than 62 million hectares of arable land--almost one-third of the total area--is being allocated this year for forage production. Sowing of many fodder crops is already under way in southern regions. Annual and perennial grasses have been sown on the first 2 million hectares. The majority of farms will soon begin cultivating these grasses. In the meantime things are not going favorably everywhere in bringing the grass seed up to the proper standard for sowing. Two-fifths of the seed on kolkhozes and sovkhozes in Kazakhstan, and one-third in Belorussia and Latvia, is not of the required standard. The agricultural organs must take urgent steps to rectify the situation.

An important place is being allocated to corn in the fodder crop structure. Many farms in Uzbekistan, Kirgizia, Estonia and other republics are achieving big harvests of green matter. The farmers' task is to insure that the experience of the best farmers is adopted by all collectives, especially those which are still not properly concerning themselves about growing ample harvests. We are talking primarily about certain farms in Georgia and Azerbaijan, where more than 100 quintals of green matter are harvested per hectare. Meanwhile this year too, the errors of past years are being repeated in some places. For example, the kolkhozes and sovkhozes in Akhsuinskiy Rayon in Azerbaijan have not managed to prepare the soil in time for the sowing of corn and are allowing the best sowing times to slip by. And now, striving to make up for lost time, they are sowing the seed anyhow, in violation of the established methods. And last season, because of disregard for agrotechnical methods, Akhsuinskiy Rayon's corn growers harvested only 66 quintals of green matter per hectare. Local party and agricultural organs must increase the specialists' responsibility for the cultivation of fodder crops.

Secondary and intermediate sowings provide a good reserve of forage. The growing of two harvests per year on one and the same area provides a good economic effect. On the Turkmen Kolkhoz Soviet Turkmenistany in Gyaurskiy Rayon, where secondary sowings on irrigated tracts of land are always carried out, about R300,000 additional income is obtained each year. Unfortunately, scant use is made of this reserve in the republic. Last year, only Ashkhabadskaya and Chardzhouskaya oblasts fulfilled the small plans for secondary sowings. In Maryyskaya Oblast, the plan was fulfilled only by 50 percent, while in Tashauzskaya [illegible] of the scheduled [illegible] was sown a second [illegible]. We should like to hope that the republic's Agriculture Ministry will rectify the situation this year. However, the plans envisage a reduction in secondary sowings. Such an irrational attitude to the land must not be taken.

The countryside's orders should be taken under strict control. Meanwhile certain enterprises are violating the deadlines for the delivery of products to kolkhozes and sovkhozes. Thus, the Comselmash plant failed to deliver more than 30 KSK-100 fodder harvesting combines in the first quarter. There are also instances of imprecise work on the part of railroad transportation. The Altay tractor plant, owing to a shortage of freightcars, was unable to dispatch tractors for Sverdlovskaya, Gorkovskaya, Lvovskaya oblasts.

The rhythm of fieldwork is becoming increasingly intense. The duty of all farmers is to [illegible] that every hour of good weather is fully utilized.

Osychkin in SELSKAYA ZHIZN

LD171447Y Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 13 Apr 78 p 1 LD

[N. Osychkin agricultural review: "The Spring Fields Call"]

[Text] Spring is striding through our country ever more confidently. On the heels of the southern regions fieldwork is being launched by the kolkhozes and sovkhozes of the Chernozem, the Volga and the Urals. Receiving with warm approval the valuable advice and wishes of Comrade L.I. Brezhnev on the further development of agriculture, which he voiced during his tour of Siberia and the Far East, rural workers are striving to carry out the spring sowing in a short space of time and to an excellent standard; to lay reliable foundations for the harvest, and to fulfill the pledges they adopted for the third year of the 5-year plan.

The sowing of spring crops up to the end of the first 10 days of April took place mainly in southern regions. The slow onset of spring is also leaving its stamp on the progress of sowing work. Overcoming the difficulties associated with changeable weather, machine operators are making every hour count and striving to overfulfill shift and daily targets.

Among the first to complete the sowing of early crops were the kolkhozes and sovkhozes of Ipatovskiy Rayon, Stavropolskiy Kray--the initiators of the all-union competition for the highly productive use of machinery. Here the large machine detachments showed their superiority on sunflower plantations too, coping with the important work in the time calculated.

The integrated Ipatovskiy Rayon work technique, which has met with broad support everywhere, is called upon to insure an increase in the rate of sowing. In the Kuban, spring crops occuply 740,000 hectares--34 percent of plan. At the moment, sunflowers and corn are being sown here and the ricegrowers are completing their final preparations. The graingrowers of the Don alloted only 100 hours for sowing. And they keep their word firmly. Grain and leguminous crops occuply more than 1 million hectares here. Sowing units in Bokovskiy, Millerovskiy, Tarasovskiy and othe rayons are operating at an efficient pace. Fieldwork is in progress in Orlogskaya, Kurskaya and Voronezhskaya oblasts. Thousands of sowing and soil-tilling aggregates are standing ready in the area around Moscow. The seeds here have been brought to first-and second-class sowing standard.

In the RSFSR, spring crops have to date been sown over a total of 3.2 million hectares. It is important to launch mass competition for the maximum reduction in the time taken for each field operation everywhere. For instance, harrowing fall and winter crop land in time means avoiding drying out of the soil in dry, windy weather and creating the conditions for obtaining good shoots. Correct action is being taken where in the sowing of grain crops granulated fertilizers are introduced into the seed rows at the same time. This agricultural method is a major reserve in increasing the yield of the fields.

The cropgrowers of the Ukraine have set themselves the goal of gathering 48 million tons of grain this season. Sowing is being carried out by progressive methods here. In the course of 3-4 days they were the first to sow early crops in Krymskaya and Khersonskaya oblasts. This work is nearing completion on Cherkasskaya, Kharkovskaya and Kievskaya oblast farms. Success is being achieved thanks to the precise organization of labor in field complexes carrying out sowing, in two shifts as a rule.

Fieldwork in Kazakhstan is gathering momentum. In the south, early crops have mainly been sown and the Virgin Land workers are bringing machinery out to its starting positions. Machine operators are striving to "seal in" moisture as soon as possible, eliminate weeds in the fields, and prepare high quality seeds better. In Moldavia, grain crops and grasses have already been sown and the vegetable growers and viticulturists are beginning work. Sowing has taken place on the first thousand hectares in Belorussia.

The difficult time for the beetgrowers is beginning. Thousands of sowing units are operating in Krasnordarskiy Kray, the Ukraine, Moldavia, southern Kazakhstan and Kirgizia. In the country as a whole, 3.7 million hectares will be occupied by this valuable crop. Some 30,000 specialized teams are coming out into the fields, applying the necessary quantity of fertilizer to the soil, carrying out sowing and feeding and combatting pests and plant diseases.

Cotton sowing is getting underway in Uzbekistan. Tashkentskaya and Surkhandarinskaya oblasts machine operators were the first to complete this important work. Thanks to a good moisture level in the soil and high quality sowing, good shoots have appeared in many sectors. The machine operators of Turkmenia and Azerbaijan are not wasting time. Some 900 integrated sowing detachments are operating in the plantations of Tadzhikistan.

It is not only the cottongrowers who are striving to make full use of all the potential of irrigated lands. This year, more than 3.5 million hectares of irrigated land will be sown with winter crops. Corn for grain will occupy 650,000 hectares of irrigated land, and the areas sown with rice, sugar beet, soya beans and vegetable crops will increase. The urgent task of agricultural workers and land reclamation workers is to prepare good quality soil, carry out sowing, irrigation and croptending at the best time, and grow the highest possible yield from each hectare.

Spring, which was somewhat delayed at first, now seems to be making up for lost time with warm, sunny days. It calls the country's agricultural workers to the fields, where they are striving to carry out the sowing with shock work.

BRIEFS

PRIMORYE SOYBEAN CONFERENCE--A 2-day kray seminar on soybean cultivation has been held at the Stepnoye experimental production farm in Primorskiy Kray. This year, soybeans will be planted on an area of 150,000 hectares. For successful fulfillment of the plan for sale of soybeans to the state a yield of at least 7.5 quintals per hectare must be achieved. During the first 2 years of the 5-year plan, the kray incurred a debt of more than 57,000 tons of soybeans to the state--hence the yield needs to be higher this year. In view of the special resolution of the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers on the development and increase of soybean production and the kraykom and krayispolkom Sovnarkom resolution on this issue, the seminar was aimed at focusing the attention of grain growers and specialists on tasks of soybean cultivation. Socialist competition for the highest yields will be held among teams, with those achieving at least 20 quintals per hectare over an area of 200-300 hectares receiving prices of 600 rubles. [Vladivostok Domestic Service in Russian 0215 GMT 14 Apr 78 OW]

AMURSKAYA GRAIN SOWING--Zeyskiy Rayon yesterday joined 13 other rayons in Amurskaya oblast which are already sowing early grain crops. Yesterday, the oblast planted 17,680 hectares of early grain crops, thus bringing the total area planted to date to some 56,600 hectares, [illegible] percent of the area planned. [Blagoveshchensk Domestic Service in Russian 1000 GMT [illegible] 78 OW]

COSMONAUT FEOKTISTOV ON FUTURE OF ORBITAL STATIONS

LD180631Y Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 12 Apr 78 p 3 LD

[Correspondent G. Lomanov interview with Konstantin Petrovich Feoktistov, pilot-cosmonaut of the USSR, doctor of technical sciences and Hero of the Soviet Union: "Road to the Stars"]

[Excerpt] [Question] How do you picture the future of orbital stations?

[Answer] They will develop above all as multipurpose scientific laboratories. Medical and biological experiments making it possible to ascertain how long man can live and work in space without harming his health will continue on board the stations. As before, great significance will also attach to manned stations for the study of natural resources--the highly effective nature of this work has already been proven by practice. It is no accident that in the past 2 years the number of organizations using space information in the interests of the national economy has doubled.

The orbital stations' unique potential will also be used for extra-atmospheric astronomical observations and for technological experiments making it possible to obtain materials that under earth conditions cannot be obtained at all or cost too much. In a word, in fulfilling national economic tasks, the orbital stations will also serve to seek out the most effective systems of methods for developing methods for research and the design of scientific instruments and equipment.

The problem of the optimal distribution of duties between man and machine is becoming increasingly topical with the increase in the duration of space flights. There is much that is controversial here: Some specialists believe that space is above all a sphere for the operation of machines. There is reason in their arguments: For instance, astrophysical observations even in the immediate future could be carried out with the aid of preprogrammed apparatus. Research into natural resources is also perfectly within the powers of modern radio- or program-controlled television equipment. But it is still people who have to elaborate the methods for this research and correlate the degree to which the information obtained by machine corresponds with the real picture.

In my view, very broad prospects are opened up for manned stations if they are examined above all as the basis for industrial construction in space. Not everyone shares this view, but I personally believe that within the next few decades the development of technology will make it possible to actually set the task of creating powerplants in space. These installations, gigantic by present standards and covering tens of square kilometers, will trap solar energy and convey it in transformed form for use on earth. With time, technological experiments will lead to the creation of real industrial enterprises in orbit.

And this means that millions of tons of diverse equipment will have to be put into space and enormous and complex structures will have to be assembled there. Such work can scarcely be fully automated. People--large collectives of people, moreover--will control the equipment and carry out installation work. Of course, this will not happen rapidly and many people may relegate such forecasts to the realm of fantasy. But after all 17 years ago Yuriy Gagarin's flight also seemed a fantastic achievement.

EDITORIAL URGES VIGILANCE, COMBAT READINESS

LD1716177 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 13 Apr 78 p 1 LD

[Editorial: "To Fulfill Military Duty With Honor"]

[Excerpt] Thanks to the concern of the party, the Soviet state and all the people, our armed forces are equipped with the most modern weapons and materiel and possess everything necessary for the successful fulfillment of their sacred duty proclaimed by the USSR Constitution--to reliably defend the socialist homeland and to be in a state of constant combat readiness guaranteeing an immediate rebuff to any aggressor.

Yes, our armed forces are really strong and really invincible. But we have never threatened nor do we now threaten anyone. All talk of the so-called "Soviet threat" is a patent fabrication by opponents of the relaxation of international tension. The Soviet Union has never armed itself for the sake of armament and has never been nor ever will be the instigator of the arms race. Our country improves its defense for a single purpose: to reliably protect the achievements of Great October and safely guard the peaceful labor of the Soviet people and of our friends and allies.

The highly humane and noble significance of the historic mission being carried out by our armed forces in the modern world serves as a source of the selflessness, fortitude, enthusiasm and initiative of Army and Navy personnel and inspires soldiers to irreproachable performance of service. It is a high honor for every Soviet citizen and every soldier to serve and defend his homeland. The present generation of armed defenders of the land of the soviets worthily bears the glory of its grandfathers and fathers and sacredly cherishes and augments the heroic combat traditions of the Army and Navy. Soviet soldiers have perceived the words addressed to them by Leonid Ilich Brezhnev as the party's orders and as guidance for action: "Enhance your military skill and combat training, improve political preparation and carry with honor the banner of the Soviet Armed Forces!"

Soldiers understand well that to carry the banner of the armed forces with honor and worthily fulfill their military duty means, above all, insuring constant combat readiness. And the combat readiness of the armed forces is formed from the combat readiness of units and ships, companies and batteries, platoons, squads and crews and depends in the final analysis on the ideological training and skill of each soldier. These days, when the winter training period is coming to an end, Army and Navy personnel are working hard and achieving the complete and quality fulfillment of their pledges in the socialist competition. Commanders, political organs and party and Komsomol organizations in the Army and Navy are called upon to direct the upsurge of political and labor activeness elicited from personnel by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's meetings with working people and soldiers toward successfully resolving the tasks facing subunits, units and ships and toward further raising vigilance and combat readiness.

CORRECTION TO ITEM ON USSR GENERAL'S AIR DEFENSE REMARKS

The following is a correction to the item entitled "Soviet General Praises USSR's Air Defense Personnel," published in the 11 April Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, page V 1:

Paragraph one, line two should read . . . member of the Military Council and chief of . . .

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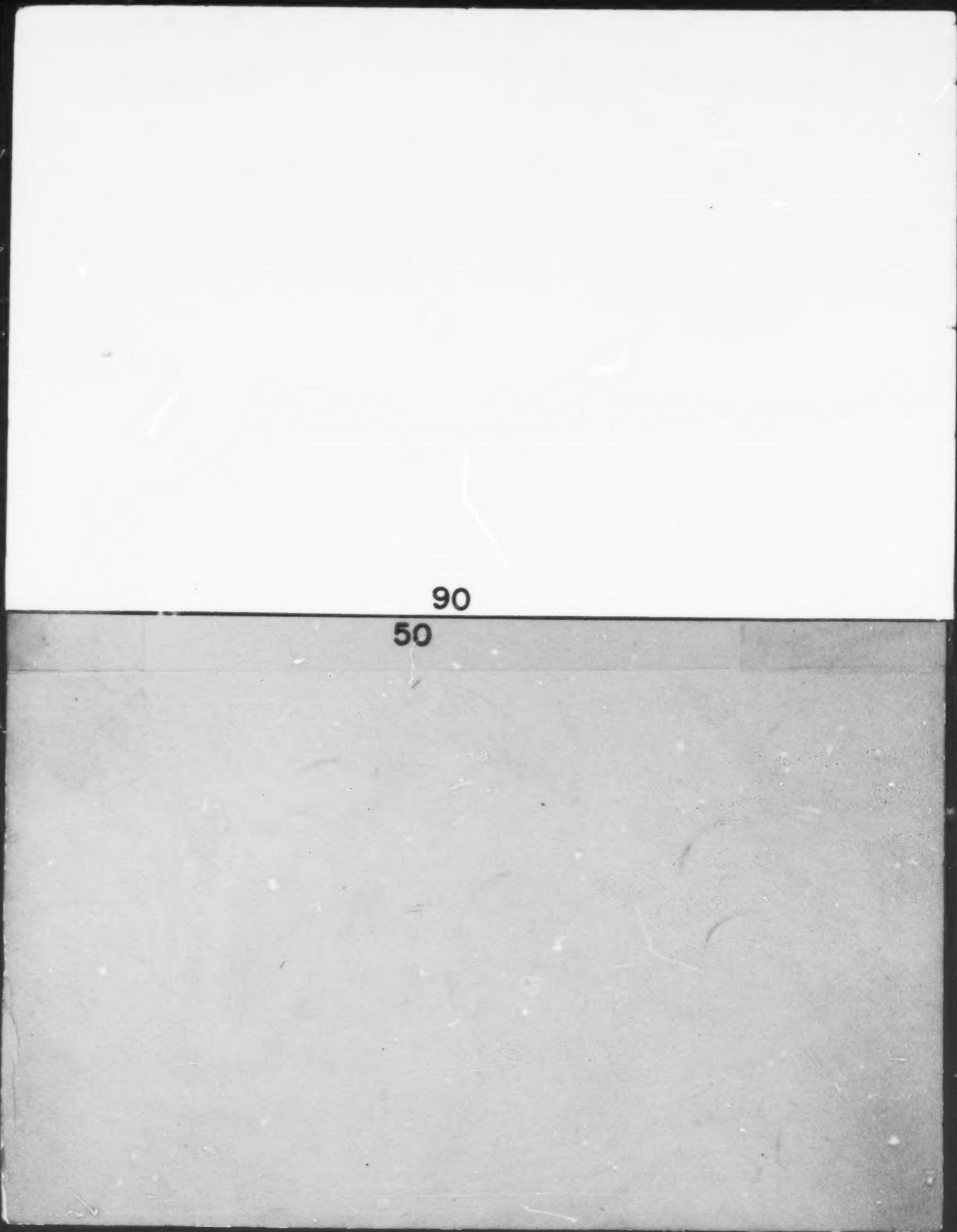
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